

Dear DREs and Youth Ministers:

February 10, 2011

From the Religious Education Office

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Time of Transition Adolescence Catechesis for Grades 11th & 12th by Bryan Reising

Last month we looked at the “Adaptation of Doctrinal Elements of a Curriculum Framework for the Development of Catechetical Materials for Young People of High School Age for Use in Parish and Youth Ministry Programs.” You may want to read that article again in light of grades 11 and 12. This month, we will look at “Renewing the Vision” as a means to help plan an effective vision for both youth ministry and adolescent catechesis. Grades 11 and 12 are a time of transition: adulthood, college life, responsibilities, and work. This document can help to create a means or a plan to help these young people as they transition in new and exciting parts of their journey! When we look at young people in these grades, it can be a great time of hope as well as a time of wonderful opportunities.

Renewing the Vision

This document by the US Bishops provides a framework for Catholic youth ministry and how important adolescent catechesis plays a part in that ministry. The following are three goals for this vision:

1. To empower young people to live as disciples of Jesus Christ in our world today.
2. To draw young people to responsible participation in the life, mission, and work of the Catholic faith community.
3. To foster the total personal and spiritual growth of each person.

These goals need strategies in order to accomplish this mission. So “Renewing the Vision” looks at some themes of a comprehensive vision: A vision that is developmentally

appropriate, family friendly, intergenerational, multicultural, collaborative, leadership oriented, and that is flexible and has adaptable programming.

In addition, “Renewing the Vision” has some components for a comprehensive ministry: Advocacy, Catechesis, Community Life, Evangelization, Justice and Service, Leadership Development, Pastoral Care, and Prayer and Worship. All of these components need to be considered when looking at youth ministry. But for the purposes of this article, let’s look at two: Evangelization and Catechesis. Consider this a teaser to read the entire document and use it to plan an effective youth ministry and adolescent catechesis in your parish or Area Faith Community.

Evangelization

Regarding evangelization, “Renewing the Vision” says “the starting point for the ministry of evangelization ‘is our recognition of the presence of God already in young people, their experiences, their families, and their culture. . . . Through the Incarnation of God in Jesus, Christians are convinced that God is present within and through all of creation, and, in a special way, within humanity. Evangelization, therefore, enables young people to uncover and name the experience of a

God already active and present in their lives. This provides an openness to the gift of the Good News of Jesus Christ.” So with this presence of God within the lives of these young people, we are able to affirm them and prepare them further to receive the Good News through the person of Jesus Christ!

It further states that “the ministry of evangelization

incorporates several essential elements: *witness, outreach, proclamation, invitation, conversion, and discipleship.*” We witness to them because they need to see the faith being lived by parents and catechists. Outreach includes reaching out to youth where they are at and also with the many needs they may have. Proclamation means proclaiming a person, the person and message of Jesus Christ! Invitation includes encountering and having a relationship with Christ, but it also includes invitation to a community of faith and support. Conversion is the response to the proclamation and invitation: to turn way from selfish deeds, sin, and turning toward God and his ways of love. Discipleship deals with the continual learning of the



faith and living the faith in daily life.

So what opportunities for evangelization are in our diocese regarding adolescent evangelization?

- **Together Encountering Christ (TEC)** has had a long history within this diocese and has helped young people to encounter Christ in a deeply spiritual way. Upcoming weekends include: February 19-21, 2011 in Winsted, April 2-4, 2011 in New Ulm, June 25-27, 2011 in Bird Island and July 30-August 1, 2011 in Winsted.
- Also, **NET (National Evangelization Teams) Ministries** come every fall to do some evangelization experiences for both middle school and high school students.
- In addition, the diocese sponsors **youth rallies** for both middle school students and high school students.
- **Check the youth ministry page** for further evangelizing opportunities.

Catechesis

What does catechesis do for adolescents? According to “Renewing the Vision,” it does the following:

“Helps adolescents *develop* a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ and the Christian community, and *increase* their knowledge of the core content of the Catholic faith. The ministry of Catechesis also helps young people *enrich* and *expand* their understanding of the Scriptures and the sacred tradition and their application to life today, and *live* more faithfully as disciples of Jesus Christ in their daily lives, especially through a life of prayer, justice, and loving service. Genuine faith is a total response of the whole person—mind, heart, and will. The ministry of catechesis fosters growth in Catholic faith in all three dimensions—trusting (heart), knowing and believing (mind), and doing (will). The goal should be to have all Catholic youth involved in some program of catechesis.”



Regarding the 11th and 12th grades, they also recommend the following themes to be covered (see these in light of the Framework that was in last month’s article):

The Profession of Faith

- *Jesus Christ*—discovering the meaning of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus and what this means for living in Christ's spirit today.
- *The Mystery of the Trinity*—understanding and experiencing the triune God.
- *Revelation*—understanding the revelation of sacred scripture and sacred tradition.
- *Old Testament*—developing the knowledge and tools to read the Old Testament and to understand its meaning and challenge for us today.
- *The Gospels*—developing the knowledge and tools to read the Gospels and understand their meaning and challenge for us today.
- *Paul and His Letters*—developing the knowledge and tools to read Paul's letters and to understand their meaning and challenge for us today.
- *Faith and Identity*—exploring Catholic beliefs and what it means to live as a Catholic today.

The Sacraments of Faith

- *Sacraments of Initiation, Healing, and at the Service of Communion*—understanding the sacraments and how they are both personal and ecclesial, evoking a response from each of us.
- *Worship*—developing an understanding and skills for participating in the sacramental life of the Church, especially the Eucharist.

The Life of Faith

- *Catholic Morality*—applying Catholic moral teachings to contemporary life situations as one encounters the many complexities in our world.
- *Conscience, Virtue, and Sin*—understanding and uncovering the desire to turn toward God and to do good and to act in accordance with God's grace, understanding the meaning and impact of sin, and learning to make decisions in accordance with one's rightly formed conscience.
- *Justice and Peace*—understanding that the Catholic faith calls people to work for justice, to pursue peace, and to defend human dignity, and developing skills to act for justice, peace, and human dignity.
- *Lifestyles and Vocation*—discerning how to live the Christian vocation in the world, in the workplace, and in marriage, single life, ministerial priesthood, permanent diaconate, or consecrated life.

Prayer in the Life of Faith

- *Christian Prayer*—understanding and experiencing the variety of Christian prayer traditions and discovering and responding to the Spirit's personal invitation to develop a personal prayer life.

In regards to Confirmation, the theme for the Sacrament of Initiation can be expanded (especially Confirmation) to ensure that good preparation is happening for this Sacrament of Confirmation.

To check out curriculum (for adolescents) that is on the USCCB Web site that is in conformity to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, go to:

<http://www.usccb.org/catechism/document/Currentlist.pdf>.

In addition, there are other catechetical opportunities, like Lifeteen, that does not have a text, but has materials and means to evangelize and catechize.

Conclusion

Evangelization and catechesis as well as the other components of a comprehensive youth ministry can help juniors and seniors during their time of transition. For example, an evangelization experience can build a rock-solid faith before they enter the world and catechesis can help equip them with formation and knowledge of the faith so that they can do several things: seek out further faith formation and a Catholic worship community on campus or the place they live; help defend the faith as they will be challenged by peers, teachers, and co-workers; and help them to live out the faith and share it with others as they in turn evangelize and catechize others. It is all of our hope that we can prepare these young men and women to be people of faith, hope, and love as they enter their new worlds. “Renewing the Vision” can guide us as we plan ahead for their transitions!

An Opportunity for Youth Ministers

University of Dayton will offer an online course on [Vision for Catholic Youth Ministry](#) in the next cycle. (See on the University of Dayton's VLCFF courses in this issue of *Gatherings Reflections* for times and how to sign up).

Interested in a Masters in Theology, Religious Education, Pastoral Ministry, Parish Administration, or Canon Law?

- St. Mary's University of Minnesota: www.smumn.edu/ipm. (They offer MA or a Professional Certificate in Pastoral Ministries or Pastoral Administration; they also offer a Graduate Certificate in Canon Law)
 - St. Paul Seminary Graduate Program for Lay People: www.saintpaulseminary.org (this includes an optional online distance learning degree. Their degrees include an MA in Theology, Pastoral Ministry, and Religious Education).
-

Attention All Catechists (and Parish Catechetical Leaders)!

Four upcoming opportunities are coming just for you:

- **Bishop Lucker Lecture** in March. The Bishop Lucker Lecture will feature internationally known speaker and theologian, Fr. Robert Barron of Chicago. It will be on Tuesday evening, **March 29, 2011** at the Church of St. Catherine in Redwood Falls. His topic is "The YouTube Heresies." Fr. Barron, utilizing technology, radio, cable TV, and YouTube, comments on things like movies, books, and trends. The YouTube heresies are his commentaries to those who responded to his own YouTube offerings. The four main heresies or objections to Catholicism are scientism, ecclesial angelism, biblical fundamentalism, and Marcionism. Adults, parents, catechists, parish staff, and youth are invited to this free event! Come and listen to Fr. Robert Barron and also celebrate those who will receive the Diocesan Distinguished Service Award.
- **Together in Ministry** training for catechists on **April 16, 2011** at the Church of St. Catherine in Redwood Falls beginning with morning prayer at 9 am. The training will be from 9:30 am to 12:15 pm ending with lunch.
- **Foundations** will take place again in the fall. This has been a wonderful opportunity for catechists, catechetical leaders, and any interested adult to learn more about theology and various aspects of our faith so that you may become more equipped in the ministry of catechesis. Faculty is from St. Mary's University in Winona and diocesan staff. Times and the place are forthcoming. Take the time to pray about this opportunity. It consists of one Saturday a month, and it begins in September and goes through the spring. More information will be forthcoming!
- **Faith Formation Days** will be: **Friday, September 23, 2011** in New Ulm (NUACS) with the focus on schools (but parish catechists and catechetical

leaders can attend this day as well). Keynote will be Most Rev. John LeVoir, our bishop.

Saturday, September 24, 2011 - at a place to be named - with a focus for those in the ministry of catechesis (although Catholic school personnel are welcome).

For Saturday, we are looking for places with Wi-Fi, because the keynote speaker for Saturday will be Richard Drabik of University of Dayton's VLCFF and his focus will be media, technology, and catechesis. **If your place can accommodate us on Saturday, contact Bryan at 507-233-5324.**

Both days are filled with wonderful and relevant workshops! Please save the dates!

Mohr Catechist Formation Fund A Gift for You, Catechists, Youth Team Members, Teachers of the Religion

This scholarship fund is a great gift for your catechists, teachers, youth ministry team, and many of you! You can receive scholarships for Faith Formation Day and other catechist formation opportunities, opportunities outside the diocese like the NCCL Conference, online courses through the University of Dayton's VLCFF (Virtual Learning Community of Faith Formation), and even some college courses on faith formation. An application is on our website:

<http://www.dnu.org/word/documents/MohrScholarship-CatechistFormationFund-Application.pdf>. Please submit your applications soon!

VIRTUS Trainings

2/21/2011	7:00 PM	New Ulm – NUACS – St. Anthony Elementary School
3/10/2011	7:00 PM	Benson - St. Francis
4/5/2011	7:00 PM	Green Valley - St. Clotilde (Marshall)

All Catechists are required to:

1. Have a background check before beginning to volunteer;
2. Sign Forms A & B of the diocesan sexual misconduct policy before beginning to volunteer;
3. Attend VIRTUS training within 90 days of beginning to volunteer;
4. Complete on-line training when as assigned. (Volunteers -- in the fall of each year.) Communicate this with your catechists, volunteers, and youth ministry adult team.

The VIRTUS training is for ages 16 or older. An individual must be 18 to serve alone in a ministry with minors. If you have a question about VIRTUS, please contact Margy Manderfeld at **507-233-5305**. Please do not contact VIRTUS directly unless you need a password.

Remember: Both Lessons One and Two should be sent in by now to Margy. If you have not done so, please do this as soon as possible. Remember catechists or teachers who are Virtus trained, have a background check, and have signed Forms A and B are to be the ones allowed to teach the Touching Safety program. Thank you!

University of Dayton's VLCFF

Cycle 2: March 13 - April 16

(Registration: Opens Jan 25; Closes March 9)

- [Catholic Beliefs](#)
- [Church History 2](#)
- [Collaboration and Community](#)
- [Ecclesiology: Pilgrim Church](#)
- [Evangelization and Discipleship](#)
- [Faith and Human Development](#)
- [Fundamentos de la Fe](#)
- [Galatians](#)
- [Images of Jesus](#)
- [Introduction to Catechesis](#)
- [Introduction to Christian Morality](#)
- [Introduction to Practical Morality](#)
- [Introduction to Prayer](#)
- [Introduction to Scripture](#)
- [Leadership Roles and Skills for Adult Learning and Faith Formation \(AFL 5\)](#)
- [Marianist Studies: Social Justice](#)
- [Marianist Studies: Prayer](#)
- [Marianist Studies: Three Offices \(Seminar\)](#)
- [Mary in Scripture and Tradition](#)
- [Media, Faith, and Values](#)
- [National Directory for Catechesis](#)
- [New Testament](#)
- [Old Testament](#)
- [Parish as a Learning Community \(AFL 2\)](#)
- [Praying with Children](#)
- [Sacrament of Marriage: A Holy Calling](#)
- [Sacraments](#)
- [Scripture and Justice](#)
- [Survey of Catholic Doctrine](#)
- [Theological Reflection: Key to Connecting Faith and Life \(Seminar\)](#)
- [Vision for Catholic Youth Ministry](#)



For new students for VLCFF:

<http://vlc.udayton.edu/profile/agreement.php>

For returning VLCFF students to register to another course:

<http://vlc.udayton.edu/register/>

Upcoming Gather for March

for Parish Catechetical Leaders (PCLs or DREs) & Youth Ministers

Our next Gather will be **Monday, March 7, 2011** from 10:00 am - 3:00 pm at the Barn south of Renville and north of Delhi on County Road 6. Ken Doran of Sadlier, will be our presenter! His presentation? "Preparing for the Sacraments." RSVP to Cindy Blickem at cblickem@dnu.org or 507-233-5325 if you plan to attend.

At our **April 11, 2011** Gather, we will have our annual Curriculum Day here at the Diocesan Pastoral Center. We will begin at 10 am with our regular meeting, have lunch, and then the entire afternoon is for you to look at our curriculum at various stations in our building. You can look at various curriculum side by side in order to compare curriculum to see which one will work best for your parishes.

Resources for High School Students from the Diocesan Media Library

For Young People in Grades 11 and 12

- *A Case of Conscience: Dealing with Peer Pressure*, a video by Brown-Roa (1995)
- *A Cry for Help*, a DVD by Paraclete Press (2001)
- *A Culture of Coffee: The Juan Ana Coffee Program in San Lucas Toliman, Guatemala*, a DVD by Christopher Mitchell
- *A Culture of Life and the Penalty of Death*, a DVD by the USCCB (2006)
- *A Day in the Life of Bonnie Consolo*, a video by Barr Films (1991)
- *A Humble Walk*, a DVD by Catholic Relief Services (2007)
- *A Man for All Seasons*, a DVD by Sony Pictures (2005)
- *A New Translation for a New Roman Missal*, a DVD by Midwest Theological Forum (2010)
- *Abraham*, a DVD by TNT Originals, Inc (2005)
- *After the Fall*, a video by Group Publishing, Inc (2004)
- *Amazing Grace*, a DVD by Twentieth Century Fox (2007)
- *Among the People: Facing Poverty in America*, a DVD by Campaign for Human Development (2002)
- *Answering God's Call: The Experience of Priesthood*, a video by the USCC (1998)
- *August Rush*, an inspiring DVD about a musically gifted child by August Rush Movie (2007)
- *Beautiful Still: Terri's Song*, a DVD by Memorare Ministries (2005)
- *Bella*, a DVD by Lionsgate Entertainment (2006)
- *Bernadette*, a DVD by Ignatius Press (1990)
- *Biography: Paul*, a DVD by A & E (2005)
- *Bonhoeffer*, a DVD by NFP teleart/Norflicks/ORB (2008)
- *Bridging the Tears*, a video by Gabriel Communications (1997)
- *Butter Cream Gang*, a video by Feature Films for Families (1992)
- *Champions of Faith-Baseball Edition*, a DVD by Catholic Exchange (2007)
- *Confirmation: Rite for Life*, a DVD by Videos with Values (2006)
- *Connecting With Christ* by Chris Padgett, a video by the Diocese of New Ulm (2002)
- *David/Solomon: Expanding the Kingdom*, a DVD by Ignatius Press (2006)
- *Esther*, a DVD by Lion Gateress (1998)
- *Entertaining Angels: The Dorothy Day Story*, a video by Paulist Productions (1997)
- *Five Basic Approaches to Scripture*, a video by Twenty-Third Publications (1997)
- *Fourth Wise Man*, a DVD by Paulist Productions (2006)
- *Genesis*, a DVD by Trimark Home Video (2000)
- *In the Footsteps of Jesus: Catholic Social Teaching at Work Today*, a video by the USCCB (2003)
- *In This House of Brede*, a DVD by Ignatius Press (1997)
- *It Is So Hard To Be Poor*, a DVD by Sharing and Caring (2009)
- *Jesus of Nazareth*, a DVD by Artisan Home Entertainment (2000)

- *Jesus, the Word Became Flesh*, a DVD by Ignatius Press (2003)
- *Joseph: The Man Closest to Christ*, a DVD by Ignatius Press (2006)
- *Love is a Choice: Life of St. Gianna Molla*, a DVD by Salt and Light Television (2005)
- *Maria Goretti*, a DVD by Ignatius Press (2007)
- *Martian Child*, a DVD by New Line Production, Inc (2008)
- *Martin the Cobbler*, a DVD by Billy Budd Films (2000)
- *Mary, Mother of Jesus*, a video by Metropolitan Productions (1996)
- *Mother Teresa*, a DVD by Twentieth Century Fox (2006)
- *National Chastity Team*, a video by Pro-Family TV (2008)
- *Ocean of Mercy*, a DVD by the Mercy Foundation (2006)
- *Padre Pio: Miracle Man*, by Ignatius Press (2006)
- *Saint Anthony: The Miracle Worker of Padua*, a DVD by Ignatius Press (2003)
- *Sanctity Within Reach: Pier Giorgio Frassati*, a DVD by EWTN (2008)
- *Saint Francis*, a DVD by Ignatius Press (2006)
- *Saint Rita*, a DVD by Ignatius Press (2007)
- *Saint Teresa of Avila*, a DVD by Ignatius Press (2008)
- *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas*, a DVD by Miramax (2009)
- *The Faithful Revolution*, a series of videos by the Vatican II Project (1997)
- *The Scarlet and the Black*, a DVD by Ignatius Press (2003)
- *The Secret of the Horse*, a DVD by Family Theatre Productions (2006)
- *Thérèse*, a DVD by Luke Films (2006)
- *Water for Life*, a DVD by Catholic Relief Services (2006)
- *What Catholics Believe Series*, DVDs by Dara Productions (2010)
- *Witness to Hope: The Life of John Paul II*, a DVD by Xenon Pictures (2008)

For Those Working with Adolescents

- *Becoming a Successful Catechist Series*, a video by National Catholic Catechists Society (1992)
- *Conversations on Catechesis Series*, a video by CTNA (1991-1993)
- *Developing Minds Series*, videos by WGBH in Boston (2002-2003)
- *Echoes of Faith: Methods for High School, and other topics*, videos by RCLBenziger and NCCL
- *Empowering the Catechist Series*, videos by Twenty-Third Publications (1995)
- *Youth and Morality*, a video by the Diocese of New Ulm (2003)

These and many other resources (DVDs, videos, and audio) can be used by member parishes, schools, and individuals. Check out the Media library catalogue at <http://dnu.kdsi.net/search/search.php>

National Conference for Catechetical Leadership (NCCL) Membership

The cost of an individual membership to NCCL is only \$60.00. This is only \$5.00 a month. Receive CL (Catechetical Leader) Magazine, CL Weekly from Lee Nagel every Monday, discounts on resources, and information on the national conference and regional workshops! For further information, check out the website: www.nccl.org

Parish Catechesis Question

Which curriculum do you use for Grades 11 and 12? What are the advantages to this curriculum? What extra activities have you done for this age group that is successful? This feedback is very important as you look at your curriculum for all grades and then you can have a chance to compare this with others when you visit the diocese and for our Curriculum Day in the spring (April 11, 2011). E-mail Bryan with your answers (breising@dnu.org).

Mark Your Calendars for 2011

Mon, Mar 7 10:00 am-3:00 pm	DRE/YM Gathering: Ken Doran of Sadlier, will be our presenter - "Preparing for the Sacraments."		Center for Youth Ministry
Mon, Apr 11	DRE/YM Gathering (Curriculum Day)	10:00 am-3:00 pm	Pastoral Center, New Ulm
Sun, Apr 10	Junior High Festival	11:00 am-5:00 pm	TBA
Mon, May 16	DRE/YM Spring Fling	Noon-4:00	TBA
Check out the dates for the Summer Camps!			
Sun, June 12- Thurs June 16	Girls Discipleship Camp	Sun 4:00 pm til Thurs 11:00 am	Flandrau Group Camp (New Ulm)
Sun, July 10- Thurs July 14	Boys Discipleship Camp	Sun 4:00 pm til Thurs 11:00 am	Flandrau Group Camp (New Ulm)
Check out Riverbend TEC! For more details and an application check out the Web site: http://riverbendtec.org/			
RB234	February 19-21, 2011		Winsted, MN
RB235	April 2-4, 2011		New Ulm, MN
RB236	June 25-27, 2011		Bird Island, MN
RB237	July 30-August 1 * NOTE CORRECTION		Winsted, MN

From the Youth Ministry Office:

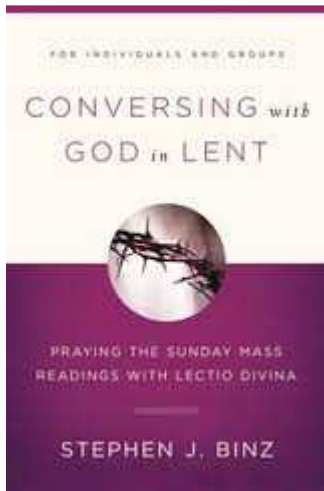
Margaret McHugh

Director of Youth Ministry & Vocation Awareness

mmchugh@dnu.org

507-233-5327

Best Book Pick for Lent



Ready or not, Lent is just around the corner! No matter how late the Lenten season begins, it's easy to be caught unprepared. So, with four weeks lead time, I've done my homework and am ready to share some of the best Lenten resources available. Please understand, I am not trying to sell you anything... We have so many resources available it's sometimes difficult to know what's good and very time-consuming to sift through everything. Behind every book, Web site, or booklet is a solid Lenten prayer practice into which I'm encouraging you to go deeper! The listed recommendations are also the resources I am using this Lent.

Don't be caught unprepared when Ash Wednesday rolls around! Have a plan, set aside times and dates for specific Lenten practices. This will enable you to live this Lent with open mind, heart, and hands. You'll be ready to hear God's Word, and follow Jesus in order to receive and rejoice in His love. This is a holy and sacred season given to us as a gift of love from the heart of the Father. Let us live it to the best of our ability!



- [Conversing with God in Lent: Praying the Sunday Mass Readings with Lectio Divina](#) by Stephen J. Binz It's published by The Word Among us (www.wau.org) and costs \$11.95.

There are a lot of books that comment on Scripture readings. This one shows you *how to pray* and contemplate them, walking you through the steps. I have an extra copy of this book in my office that I will give to the first person who contacts me and is interested.

Lectio divina is an ancient Christian discipline and way of praying with Scripture that is making a huge comeback, not only among Catholics but also among Protestants and evangelicals. We would be foolish not to pick up on a way of praying that is so deeply rooted in our spiritual patrimony! The traditional steps for this prayer are:

- 1) **lectio:** What does this passage say?
- 2) **meditatio:** What does this passage say to me?
- 3) **oratio:** What do I say to God and what is God saying to me?
- 4) **contemplatio:** I accept God's invitation to rest quietly in him
- 5) **operatio:** I want to live out God's word practically.

Best Web Site for Lent

<http://www.usccb.org/video/reflections.shtml>

The United States Catholic Conference of Bishops's Web site features a daily video reflection on the day's Scriptures. You can also *read or listen* to the daily readings from the New American Bible.

Best Daily Devotionals with a Web Site for Lent

Daily devotional booklets are a great way to pray during Lent. Are you aware of the following Web sites? Not only can you subscribe to receive the print version, but you can also visit these Web sites for a *free* daily meditation. Consider bookmarking them for daily reference on your computer.

- **Word Among Us** (www.wau.org/meditations/current)
Free 2 week subscription web-only
1 year web only \$9.95,
1 year print and on-line \$34.95

- Living with Christ (<http://livingwithchrist.us>) \$23.95 for a year
- One Bread One Body (<http://www.presentationministries.com/obob/obob/asp>) Make a donation.
- Living Faith (<http://www.livingfaith.com>) \$10 year

Best Pick for Teen Lenten Calendar

Last Advent, I saw many good Advent calendars and other resources available in parishes/AFCs. Most of these were specifically geared to adults, children, or families.

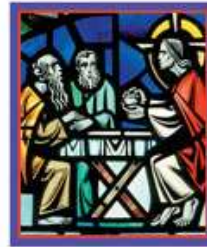
But I also saw an interested 13-year-old boy scanning the resource table and sadly saying, "There's nothing here for anybody *my age*." So with him in mind, I looked for age-appropriate materials for teens. This was the best calendar I found. It costs twenty cents apiece and additional bulk discounts are available from Creative Communications for the Parish (www.creativecommunicationsforthe-parish.com). Their toll free number is 800-325-9414 and this product is # AHW.



Best Picks for Teen Devotional Booklets

Among the many age-appropriate resources available for teens, I looked for ones that were both well done and cost effective. The following are also available from Creative Communications (www.creativecommunications.com) and based on how many you order, they cost about forty-nine cents each.

STAY WITH US, LORD
Daily Scriptural Reflections for Lent



Fr. Robert Barron

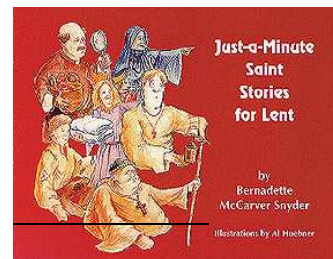
These daily Scriptural Reflections for Lent were put together by Fr. Robert Barron, our next speaker for the upcoming Lucker Lecture on March 29.

Amy Welborn is the author of this booklet of Stations of the Cross for Young People. She is the well known Catholic author of the "Prove It God" series.

Stations of the Cross for Young People

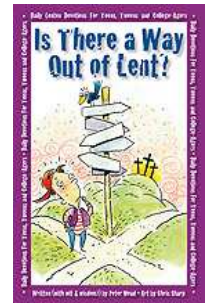


Amy Welborn



Another great Catholic author, Bernadette McCarver Snyder, writes about forty saints in a way that is both fun and informative.

Daily devotions for teens, tweens, and college-agers that goes along with the Lenten calendar pictured to the left (and also written by Peter Mead with art by Chris Sharp.)



Other Lenten Resources

Reflection on the Seven Last Words of Christ
http://loyolapress.com/assets/fg-complflash_246484.swf

Junior High Festival

When: April 10, 2011 from 11:00 am – 5:00 pm

Place: Many are wondering where the Junior High Festival is going to be – we should know in a few days because we are finalizing details in one location. We had checked out three different locations and in all three places we ran into setbacks, so this is very unusual. As soon as plans are finalized we will send out an e-mail to everyone.

Theme: Planted Firm in Faith

Keynote: Chris Padgett

We will be sending out a separate mailing with promotional materials soon.

Summer Discipleship Camps

New! Longer format & new location at Flandrau Group Camp (New Ulm). More materials to follow.

Girls Discipleship Camp	Sun, June 12-Thurs June 16 Sun 4:00 pm til Thurs 11:00 am
Boys Discipleship Camp	Sun, July 10-Thurs July 14 Sun 4:00 pm til Thurs 11:00 am



NCYC Update

Intent & Deposit were due 2/4/11

To date we have heard from 15 out of 22 parishes that are planning to participate. Initial deposit forms were mailed/e-mailed last month – if you cannot find yours please let Cindy know. At this time we need to know who plans to attend and to receive the \$100 per person non-refundable deposit. We will be sending out a separate mailing with final registration forms soon.

World Youth Day August 14-25, 2011 Madrid, Spain and Lourdes, France

Bishop LeVoir plans to attend WYD 2011! So far we've heard from six potential pilgrims and have room for 19 more. The cost per person is \$3,040 plus the cost of transportation to Chicago. May 1st is the absolute cutoff date to let us know if you plan on attending and full the payment is due at that time also.

The official brochure from Pentecost Tours will be posted on the diocesan Web site soon under the youth ministry tab (dnu.org). This will have details for registration and a request for a \$500 first deposit.

Please let Margaret McHugh know who is interested and we can begin preparations – 507-233-5327, mmchugh@dnu.org