



The Professional



A TIME TO SOW

from
Tom Quinlan,
Director

Special Women, Faithful Servants

Within a span of four days in May, our community of catechetical leaders in the diocese lost two colleagues. Sr. Helen Susan Lideika and Sr. Maria Hasse returned to the Father. Their passing is a loss for St. Pius Church in Lombard, where Sr. Helen Susan served as DRE for over 20 years, and for St. Andrew Church in Romeoville, where Sr. Maria served for 14 years, before retiring last year. It is also a loss for all of us who came to know them and call them friends. Their commitment and generosity to their people and our ministry will not be forgotten. May we carry on their legacy and continue to echo forth the *Good News* that so defined their lives.



Sr. Maria Hasse, OSF



Sr. Helen Susan Lideika, sfcc

The following are portions of two reflections on Sr. Helen Susan, offered by some of her close friends:

When I read the story in scripture of the paralyzed man, I pray with gratitude to God for giving me the gift of all the people I know who carry me on my "stretcher" in the times when I can't quite get myself together and be whole. Helen Susan was one of those important people who never gave up on me even when I was complaining and constantly out of sorts. Helen always seemed to see the potential for leadership, wisdom, and self-esteem that I so sorely needed. She was always there to offer blessed kinship, and spiritual, emotional, and nutritional nourishment when I needed it. I feel blessed that Helen is among those who help carry the "stretcher" in my life and ministry. I thank our great God who brought Helen into my life and I ask God that I may be given the opportunity to be for others what Helen Susan has been to me. (*Judy Glander, DRE, St. James, Glen Ellyn*)

She loved her catechists, she loved the families and she loved the children. As I think back, I do not ever remember hearing her say a negative comment about anyone or anything. She loved God and that love just poured out of her being...

A few of us were with her the evening before she left this earth and went home to heaven. We shared with her

(continued on next page)

* * *

what a wonderful friend she is to all of us. We told her she is the "bar of excellence" that we all aspired to be as DRE's. We told her that she is loved, more than our words, our tears, our hugs and kisses would convey. We signed and blessed her. We asked her to send our love to those who were waiting for her in heaven and please send us a sign. She said that she would. She peacefully smiled and waved good-bye.

We left her that night knowing that the next time we would meet again; we would be "whooping it up" in heaven. You will notice that I wrote this in the present tense, for Helen will always be with us. Every time you see a bluebird that is her sign. Thank you, Helen, for enriching my life. (Maureen Brennan, DRE, St. John the Baptist, Winfield)

Terri Vollrath's Retirement

After three years of dedicated service to the Religious Education Office as office manager, and seven prior years at Divine Savior in Downers Grove, Terri Vollrath is retiring. Terri used this past Lenten Season as a time to prayerfully discern her future, out of which came her decision. She says, "This will allow me to spend more time with my mother, my children and grandchildren... in addition to volunteering at Morton Arboretum and at the Cathedral."

Thank you, Terri, for the many ways you have blessed our office and our diocese with your gifts and your presence. Your contributions have been significant.

Bishop Kaffer's Eucharist Reflection

In this *Year of the Eucharist* (instituted by our late John Paul II), I am pleased to draw your attention to an insert containing a theological reflection developed by Bishop Roger Kaffer.



Perhaps this summer we, as catechetical leaders can engage in personal study, reflection and prayer on the subject of the Eucharist. In our planning for the start of the next school year, it would be most appropriate for all parish and school faith formation programs to give special attention to this liturgical and sacramental centerpiece to

Catholic life... especially in September and October, as the *Year of the Eucharist* concludes.

Elmhurst DRE Receives C.A.R.E. Award

Sr. Constance Kuczvara, Director of Religious Education at Visitation Parish in Elmhurst, was recognized on May 19, by the Chicago Association of Religious Educators (C.A.R.E.) as "an outstanding professional catechetical leader."

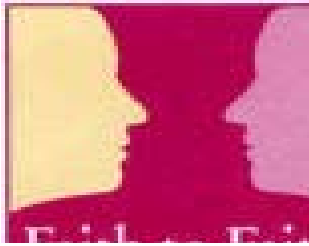
Honored for her 25-year contribution of "time, knowledge, wisdom, inspiration and energy" to C.A.R.E., Sr. Constance was commended for her "clear vision and fierce work ethic" on behalf of catechetical ministry, both in the Archdiocese and in her current ministry. She was also honored for her initiative, her ongoing role as an advocate for professional catechetical ministry, her dedication to serving those with special needs, and her work to unite the school and religious education program families at Visitation Parish. C.A.R.E. commended her for her personal interaction with families, her work preparing students one-on-one for baptism, and the ways she honors her catechists and volunteers.

Sr. Constance says she was "excited" to receive the award. "I am very passionate about catechetical ministry -- people probably don't know that about me," she quips. If this award is any evidence, people do know that about Sr. Constance.

We, in the Diocese of Joliet, are grateful to her for her work in her parish ministry, as DRE and for her role in recruiting volunteers and assisting Visitation's Generations of Faith initiative. We are appreciative as well as for her ongoing participation in the work of the committee for the *Faith Formation Curriculum and Standards*. Thanks and congratulations, Sister!



Evangelization Tid-Bits



*What style of evangelizer are you?
The Witness Style evangelizer is
Characterized by personal experience
as a basis for sharing faith.
Witness evangelists are good listeners
who feel connected to the experiences
of others. Their story continues to
touch their own life as well as
the lives of others.*

Evangelization Contact
Sheri Abel, ext. 247

CATECHETICAL LEADERSHIP

Harcourt Religion Publishers Summer Institute, Sustaining the Spirit: Responding to the Callings, Commitments and Vocational Challenges of Your Life, June 16-18, 2005 at Loyola University Chicago. Michael Carotta, Catherine Carotta, John Shea and Jerry Galipeau will help us to rediscover our passion for ministry. Using stories, research, reflection and discussion, we will revisit our callings, explore characteristics of those who sustain commitments, and develop practices which respond to the challenges we face in the work of our life.

Thursday, June 16

3:00 pm – 5:30 pm Registration

6:00 pm – Welcome & Opening Prayer

6:30 pm - Session 1: Revisiting Your Callings

9:00 pm – Evening social

Friday, June 17

8:30 am – Morning Prayer

8:45 am – Session 2: Renewing Your Commitments

11:15 am – Harcourt Religion Product Update

11:30 am – Lunch Break

12:30 pm – Session 3: Spiritual Practices

2:30 pm – Afternoon & Evening free to explore Chicago

Saturday, June 18

8:30 am – Morning Prayer

8:45 am – Session 4: Adapting to Vocational Changes

11:15 am – Evaluations

11:30 am – Blessing Prayer

The program is free, however participants have the option of staying Thursday and Friday nights at a newly renovated hall on the Lakeshore Campus for \$87.00 per night, meals included. For more information call 407/345-3706.

For additional summer formation opportunities, see the Bulletin Board on page 8.

Contract Renewal Materials for 05-06

Please complete the materials and send a copy to the Religious Education Office, attention Associate Director of Leadership & Formation. These materials can be accessed on the REO website. From the REO homepage, select For Parish Staff, then Parish Catechetical Leader Website and enter the password. If you have any questions, please contact Helen Johnson at hjohnson@dioceseofjoliet.org or 815/727-6411 ext 261.

Hiring A New Catechetical Leader?

The Religious Education Office is ready to assist you in this endeavor. A resource developed to guide you through this process is available on the REO website. Go to the REO home page; scroll down and it is in the section located on the right side, titled Publications. If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact Helen Johnson, Associate Director for Leadership & Formation 815/727-6411 ext 261 or hjohnson@dioceseofjoliet.org.

2005-2006 Formation Opportunities... and close to home!!!

The Institute of Pastoral Studies of Loyola University Chicago offers two courses for Fall 2005 at St Charles Pastoral Center in Romeoville. See the enclosed flyer.

Plan now to attend the **Leadership Day/Pastor & Staff Workshop/Luncheon on September 30, 2005**, which will feature Neil Parent, Executive Director of National Conference of Catechetical Leaders. Registration materials will be in the July 15th *Professional*.

Spring in Chicago is a wonderful time of the year and attending the annual meeting of the National Conference of Catechetical Leaders (**NCCL**) will also offer you a wonderful experience. Mark your calendars today (**April 30 to May 4, 2006**) and begin making plans. Don't miss

this opportunity to gather with catechetical leaders from across the United States & Canada!

Mark your Calendars!

Winter Retreats for Catechetical Leaders
with Lee Nagel
January 20, 2005
(St Charles Pastoral Center),
January 21, 2005
(Kankakee).

Sponsored by Benziger.
More information to follow.

CATECHIST FORMATION

Echoes of Faith

As you may know the Diocese of Joliet for many years has been an adoption diocese of the RCL catechist formation program, *Echoes of Faith*. One important element of this adoption relationship is that *Echoes of Faith* is offered to parishes of our diocese at a lower price than what the general marketplace pays. Due to the rising cost of materials and production, the adoption price was raised effective January 1, 2005. The new prices are:

- Complete *Echoes of Faith/Ecos de Fe Series* \$539.00 (catalog price \$719.25)
- Individual Workbooks (each) \$2.75 (catalog price \$3.75)

As you can see, this is still a significant savings of 25% for the parishes and schools of the Joliet Diocese. The flyer and order form are located on the REO website; go to the REO homepage; select REO ministries, then Catechist Certification and Formation. If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact Helen Johnson, Associate Director for Leadership & Formation 815/727-6411 ext 261 or hjohnson@dioceseofjoliet.org.

Catechist Initial Formation Days

The following dates have been scheduled:

- Saturday, September 10, 2005
Christ the King, Lombard
- Saturday, September 17, 2005
Immaculate Conception, Elmhurst
- Saturday, September 24, 2005
Corpus Christi, Carol Stream
- Saturday, October 1, 2005
St. Charles Pastoral Center, Romeoville
- Saturday, October 15, 2005
St. Dominic, Bolingbrook
- Saturday, January 14, 2006
St. Charles Pastoral Center, Romeoville

Registration materials will follow in the July 15th issue of the *Professional*. If you have any questions, please contact Helen Johnson, Associate Director for Leadership & Formation 815/727-6411 ext 261 or hjohnson@dioceseofjoliet.org.

CATECHUMENATE

Developing a Curriculum for RCIA/RCIC

While there are many good resources for teaching adults and children entering the Church through the catechumenate process, part of the key to using them is being creative. While “canned” programs, such as Liguori’s *Journey of Faith* series for children, teens and adults can work well, it is important to remember that the parish is actually the curriculum – that disciples can only be formed by sustained and deepening contact with those who already walk the Catholic Christian way of life.

The catechumenate team is the most important provider of this contact. If you, as most parishes, for practical reasons work primarily on a school-year model, now, in the summertime, is the time to begin to gather a team for the fall. Why not invite some new people to consider walking with catechumens and candidates this time around? Ask those who were with you last year to ask one other person to consider this ministry. However, don’t forget to evaluate and affirm the role of those who have served – whether they will continue next school year or not. If they had a good experience, they will help get the word out that being on the team is a great thing!

The second way the catechumens and candidates learn to be a part of the parish community is by contact with that community – through the rites, but also through other activities. Make sure there are opportunities in your instructional plans next year for experiences of parish events and activities, both social and ministerial.

CHILD CATECHESIS

Helping Families Make Connections

We are very excited that Kathy Coffey, well-known author and speaker, will speak on “Eucharist: Links Between Church and Home” on August 30, 2005 at St Charles Pastoral Center. This will be a great workshop for anyone who works with families and children preparing for any sacraments – especially Eucharist, but it will also be of general interest to any who want to understand better the context of sacraments in our daily lives. Kathy’s session will be partially sponsored by *Living the Good News*.

Look for Kathy's description of her session and a registration form on the insert in this issue. We hope to see you there.

Child Touching Safety Q & A Day

As announced in the last *Professional* and *JOB* all Catholic schools and those religious education programs where the public schools do not offer such a program, must offer instruction in child touching safety to children in Grades K-5 and their parents, beginning in the 2005-06 school year.

To respond to those who have concerns, there will be a meeting for all who are interested in having specific questions answered on August 12, 2005 at St Charles Pastoral Center, from 9:30-Noon.

Sr. Mary Frances Seeley, diocesan advocate for abuse victims, and personnel from the REO and CSO will be present to answer questions.

In addition, it is anticipated that directors of religious education and principals who ordered diocesan modified *Talking About Touching* kits can pick them up at that meeting to save shipping costs.

This session is recommended for those with concerns and for all newly hired catechetical leaders and administrators. See the enclosed flier to register for this event.



Catechetical Sunday

Due to anticipated personnel changes in the REO over the summer, we will not be able to offer materials through the REO this year. Please take advantage of the NCCL offer through Theological Book service, on the enclosed flier.

CURRICULUM

Do You Have Your Curriculum Yet?

We have been distributing the new *Faith Formation Curriculum* for children and youth at cluster meetings and other opportunities. If you have not yet received your binder and CD-ROM, you may pick it up at the REO or contact Terri Vollrath to receive yours. We will be mailing some of these, but to save costs, it would be

great if someone could pick yours up. The intent is to put one in the hands of every parish director of religious education, so that person can make additional copies available to others who need it, by copying from the CD.

Anyone who has questions about the curriculum can call Joyce Donahue at 815/727-6411.

In-Service 1 – Adult Formation

We are really excited about the new *Faith Formation Curriculum* – its rollout is an opportunity for all who provide faith formation to children, youth, and even adults. Our curriculum was designed to be the basis for life-long faith formation. Over the next several issues we will take a look at how the curriculum can be used.

Since the Church says in documents such as the *General Directory for Catechesis*, the new *National Directory for Catechesis* and "Our Hearts Were Burning Within Us" all stress that adult formation is primary, we will begin with the least obvious question: "What's in the new *Faith Formation Curriculum* for adults?"

Not only is the curriculum a basis for children who will grow up to be adult Catholics, DAFF's can use two areas in particular when evaluating needs for adult formation. First, the grades 6-8 standards can serve as a guide to areas of knowledge, skill and living that adults should have competencies in at an adult level. Take a look at Goal 1, Standard A, for example. Adults should understand that the Creed reveals fundamental teachings of the Catholic Church – perhaps they could benefit from adult sessions on the meaning of different portions of the Creed, or hear from a speaker about Standard 8 "Explain how the Marks of the Church are evident in the world today."

Or, look at Goal 2, Standard C. Adults certainly should "appreciate the Eucharist and understand that it is central to their lives and the life of the Catholic Church." What workshops could you offer in your parish to help them understand Standard 8 "how their active participation in the liturgy helps build up the Body of Christ"?

Other ways the curriculum can be used with adults is as a basis for RCIA curriculum, for *Generations of Faith* topics, and more. Each Goal has an "Outcome" or "Being" statement based on the goals stated in the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults. This was by design, because the basis we provide for the faith of persons as children can be no different from that we provide adults. The differences are related to developmental understandings. The hoped-for outcome is ultimately the same.

Faith formation, whether of children or adults, is about creating disciples who live out their faith fully. We hope you will turn to the curriculum often as a reference for topics and ideas for faith formation for all ages.

Next month, using the Curriculum as a basis for intergenerational, whole parish faith formation.

CLUSTER MEETING INFORMATION

Upcoming meetings:

DAFF: 12 noon, June 23, 2005,
St Charles Pastoral Center, Romeoville
Parish YM Cluster: 9:30 am, June 16, 2005,
St Charles Pastoral Center, Romeoville

MEDIA

Large Group A/V Equipment Coming Soon!

The Media Center recently purchased large venue sound, lighting, and video equipment. This equipment was purchased in support of our annual Youth Leadership Conference for about 1,000 people. When not in use to support YLC, it will be available to parishes for rental. Some of the items include 2 large format projectors (for 500 – over 1,000 people), 9x12 portable projection screens, portable amps and sound boards, speakers, microphones, and lighting equipment. This equipment might especially be of interest to parishes engaged in whole parish faith formation, such as *Generations of Faith*.

More information will be forthcoming. In the meantime, contact Brian Topping at the REO with any questions.

REO Media Center Membership



Are you a member of the REO Media Center? If not, you should be! The Media Center supports parish Catechetical Ministry by offering quality video resources for every age, in addition to books, music, and multimedia equipment!

There are more than “just a few” selections to choose from, too. The REO Media Center boasts over 5,000 videos, over 3,000 books, a growing music collection, and equipment rental service – over 9,000 items in all! Make sure you save room in next year’s budget for a Media Center Membership. **The Media Center Membership Brochure can be found online at www.dioceseofjoliet.org/reo. Click the link for Media Services on the left.**

Search the Online Book and Video Library Catalogs

Browse the Media Center Book and Video Catalogs online at www.dioceseofjoliet.org/reo. In the column on the left, highlight the words “Media Services.” A pop-up menu will allow you to choose between a video search, a book search, or any other special features that are highlighted. You can search by keyword or by category. Please contact Jeanne Pirc with any questions.

Videos for Summer Reflection

Included as an insert in this month’s *Professional* are videos for summer reflection.

Technology and Catechesis Newsletter

This month’s Technology and Catechesis newsletter continues on the theme of integrating Media into Catechetical Ministry in describing “How to Create a Media Mindset.”

SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY

Moving Special Needs Ministry Forward

We are very grateful for the dedicated years of service Ed Jahnke has given to this ministry. He will be missed. The Special Needs Cluster will continue to meet and we look forward to continuing the REO’s ministry of service to this important group of people in our diocese.

We hope that as many people as possible will attend the Special Needs Mass on Sunday, October 9, 1 pm at St. Paul the Apostle in Joliet. It is important for us to gather to celebrate a church where all are truly welcome, and to pray for a society in which barriers will no longer keep persons with special needs from living lives that fulfill the promise of God’s gifts in them. Please mark your calendar now and consider attending this Mass as a sign of our solidarity in Christ.

If you wish to help with this Mass or if you have questions about special needs, please contact Joyce Donahue at 815/727-6411.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Monthly Youth Ministry Meetings

Thanks to all who participated in the monthly meeting for Director’s and Coordinator’s of Youth Ministry. Our next meeting will take place September 15, 2005 at 10:00 am at St Charles Pastoral Center in Romeoville. We hope

you have a great summer, and we hope to see you at YLC or World Youth Day!

World Youth Day 2005 In Germany



Planning Meeting

The next planning meetings for the World Youth Day trip will be on June 7th and July 6th at St Charles Pastoral Center in Romeoville, beginning at 10:00 am. Parish leaders are encouraged to attend and assist us in planning the trip.

Payment Deadlines

Each pilgrim *should have paid* for the trip in full by this time. If they have not, you are asked to contact Brian Topping at the REO immediately to insure they are not **dropped** from the trip. Also, the single room supplement of \$460.00 is due for those people choosing a single room.

Diocesan Mass and Commissioning

Our last preparation meeting for the World Youth Day trip will be on July 31, 2005 at St Charles Pastoral Center in Romeoville from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. All pilgrims from the Diocese of Joliet are invited to attend with their families, even if you are not attending the trip sponsored by the REO. Please contact Brian Topping with questions.

Website

The REO website contains updated information about World Youth Day plans. Please visit frequently.

Youth Leadership Conference

The deadline has past for the annual Youth Leadership Conference (YLC). We have received a number of requests from parishes that still want to come to the event. **There is still room.** But we need your paper work as soon as possible. Please fax your parish application to 815/722-7361, and send all your forms to the REO-YLC, 430 N. Center St., Joliet, IL 60435.

National Catholic Youth Conference

Please start inviting your youth to join you and the rest of the delegates from the Diocese of Joliet, for **NCYC** this fall in Atlanta, Georgia, October 27 – October 30, 2005. This four-day event will amaze your young leaders through the sheer number of faith-filled peers they will encounter. The quality training and experience they will receive will be invaluable to your ministry.

OTHER AGENCY EVENTS

Ministry Formation

Thursday, June 2, 2005: Baptismal and Trinitarian Spirituality. Presenter: Sr Kathleen Dolphin, Ph.D.

Workshop: Time: 9-3. Cost \$35 includes lunch. Location: St Charles Pastoral Center, Romeoville. To register call 815/834-4003 or email: botoole@dioceseofjoliet.org. For full details, go to <http://www.dioceseofjoliet.org/omf>.

New Wine Lay Ministry Program begins in September for the Greater Joliet Area. Contact OMF at 815/834-4001.

Loyola University/IPS

Catholic Social Teaching, Mary Elsbernd, OSF, PhD, starting September 15, 2005

The Gospel of Mark, Paula Hiebert, PhD, starting September 10, 2005.

For information on these Institute of Pastoral Studies courses: MA in Religious Education, MA in Social Justice, MA in Spirituality, or summer courses, call 800/424-1238 or email www.luc.edu/dept/ips.

Free Typewriters



The REO has three quality, electronic typewriters in good working order that we would like to give away. One is a Word Processing typewriter. If you or your parish has a need for one of these machines, please contact Brian Topping or stop in the REO to try them out. Supplies for these units are still sold at most office supply stores.

REO WEBSITE



www.dioceseofjoliet.org/reo

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

REO Phone number: 815/727-6411

- June 16, 2005 Parish YM Meeting, SCPC: contact Brian Topping
- June 23, 2005 Directors of Adult Faith Formation, SCPC: contact Rosemary Bleuher
- July 22-24, 2005 Youth Leadership Conference (YLC), Lewis University: contact Brian Topping
- July 28, 2005 REO Board, REO: contact Tom Quinlan
- August 9-10, 2005 Catholic School Teachers Catechist Formation, SCPC: contact Joyce Donahue
- August 11-22, 2005 World Youth Day, Cologne, Germany: contact Brian Topping
- August 12, 2005 Child Touching Safety Instruction, SCPC: contact Joyce Donahue
- August 25, 2005 Directors of Adult Faith Formation, SCPC: contact Tom Quinlan
- August 25, 2005 REO Board, SCPC: contact Tom Quinlan
- August 30, 2005 Workshop: Kathy Coffey, SCPC: contact Joyce Donahue
- September 10, 2005 Catechist Initial formation Day, Christ the King, Lombard: contact Helen Johnson
- September 15, 2005 Parish YM Meeting, SCPC: contact Brian Topping
- September 17, 2005 Catechist Initial formation Day, Immaculate Conception, Elmhurst: contact Helen Johnson
- September 18, 2005 **CATECHETICAL SUNDAY**
- September 22, 2005 REO Board, SCPC: contact Tom Quinlan
- September 24, 2005 Catechist Initial formation Day, Corpus Christi, Carol Stream: contact Helen Johnson
- September 30, 2005 Pastor-Staff Leadership Day**, St Mary Immaculate, Plainfield: contact Helen Johnson
- October 1, 2005 Catechist Initial formation Day, SCPC: contact Helen Johnson
- October 9, 2005 Special Needs Mass, St Paul, Joliet: contact Joyce Donahue
- October 15, 2005 Catechist Initial formation Day, St Dominic, Bolingbrook: contact Helen Johnson
- October 20, 2005 Parish YM Meeting, SCPC: contact Brian Topping
- October 24, 2005 "Why Catholic", location TBA: contact Tom Quinlan

- October 25, 2005 "Why Catholic", SCPC: contact Tom Quinlan
- October 25, 2005 "Why Catholic", location TBA: contact Tom Quinlan
- October 27, 2005 REO Board, SCPC: contact Tom Quinlan

~ BULLETIN BOARD ~

BIBLE IN THE BURBS

Workshop: Gospel of John & the Book of Revelation presented by Macrina Scott, OSF
July 31-August 11, 2005, 7 – 9 pm
St Raphael Church, Naperville
\$300 workshop fee includes textbooks
Deadline: June 15, 2005
For more information call Luanne Roth
630/820-8215

"DEEPEN YOUR FAITH; CHALLENGE YOUR MIND; AND BROADEN YOUR VIEW"

at the
Catholic Theological Union Summer Institute.
Go to www.ctu.edu/summer
for more information.

SUMMER AT LOYOLA IN CHICAGO

One-Week; Two-Week; and Three-Week Courses;
Weekend and Evening Courses...
in the Great City by the Lake
May 27-July 30, 2005
Go to www.luc.edu/summer05/
for more information

STATEMENT OF PUBLICATION
THE PROFESSIONAL

Is published monthly by:

Diocese of Joliet
Religious Education Office
430 N Center St., Joliet IL 60435-6299

Phone: 815/727-6411, Fax: 815/722-7361

E-mail addresses:

Thomas Quinlan

tquinlan@dioceseofjoliet.org

Sheri Abel

sabel@dioceseofjoliet.org

Rosemary Bleuher

rbleuher@dioceseofjoliet.org

Joyce Donahue

jdonahue@dioceseofjoliet.org

Helen Johnson

hjohnson@dioceseofjoliet.org

Rhona Lenhof

rjlenhof@dioceseofjoliet.org

Brian Topping

btopping@dioceseofjoliet.org