



NCCYM '06: A Joyful and Enriching Experience!

The National Conference on Catholic Youth Ministry celebrated its 25th anniversary in early December with a truly wonderful national conference. I was privileged to join Paul Mach (REO) and Fidel Tellez (Hispanic Ministry Office of the diocese), as well as a large and energetic contingent of parish youth ministers, in experiencing this gathering of 2,600 youth ministry personnel from across the nation...the largest attendance ever!

I came away with a greater appreciation for the importance of excellent comprehensive youth ministry that each of our parishes is called to provide. I gained a sense of what a gift our ministers to youth are, both nationally and in our diocese. And I left with a renewed hope that the Holy Spirit is very much alive and active in our Church, especially in our youth and those that serve them. I never laughed and celebrated as much as with this NCCYM crowd. I encourage all our parish directors of youth ministry to strive to attend the 2008 conference.

-Tom Quinlan



From Left: (Top) Fidel Tellez, Eric Futterer, Ken Barrie, Matthew Krumdrick, Jeremy Hylka, Denis Brunner, Paul Mach, Karen Campe, Mary Miller, Duane Wozek, Mike Hoyt, Tom Quinlan; (seated) Michelle Barrie, Jenny Krumdrick, Joanne Kuttner, Michelle Brunner, Dave Miserendino, Valerie Della Penna, Kristi Sherlag, Chris Wozek.

Not Pictured: Patty Bailey, Mary Ellen Harrington, Charlene Jain, Colleen Lowry, Denise Utter, Robert Utter

"The gathering provided encouragement and support in a "we've been there" and "I know what you're talking about" framework. The conference was energizing and reminded me that if we, as youth ministers are prayerful, faithful and show up for our Lord and our young people our God will make the desert bloom."

Ken Barrie – St. Teresa/St Patrick, Kankakee

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A New Format...



Based on feedback we received from our readership, we decided to make *Formation Wheel* a pullout section of *Leaven*, rather than the previous up-side-down format. Our hope is that this will make it easier to read and to save for those issues you want to hang onto for future reference. Let us know what you think by calling or emailing Brian at btopping@dioceseofjoliet.org.

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Equipment for
Sale

**JANUARY
2007**

UPCOMING CLUSTER MEETINGS

Please attend your local cluster meetings for assistance, support and information. The next meetings will be as follows:

Directors of Adult Faith Formation (DAFF)

February 22, 2007

St. Charles Pastoral Center
12:30-2:30 p.m.

DRE Clusters:

Northeast DuPage Cluster

January 18, 2007

Overlapping Catechesis with Youth Ministry
10:00am

West DuPage Cluster

January 25, 2007

Cluster Institute
St. Isidore, Bloomingdale
10am

February 8, 2007

St. Thomas the Apostle
Naperville
10am

Ford-Iroquois Cluster

February 8, 2007

St. Peter, Clifton
6:30pm

Joliet-Will Cluster

February 15, 2007

Cathedral of St. Raymond
10:00 AM

Kankakee Cluster

February 8, 2007

St Rose, Kankakee
1 – 3 PM



Tom Quinlan
Director

A Time To Sow



In early December, the diocesan Religious Education Board and the staff of the Religious Education Office spent the better portion of a day together. This joint gathering was designed to bring these two important groups together around vital topics in faith formation ministry today.

I'm pleased to share with you that the day proved to be a time of honest and valuable dialogue, with plenty of energy and insights brought to the process by both staff and board members. Areas of focus included:

- Ways to serve and strengthen catechetical leadership
- An exploration of the challenge, grace and possibilities inherent in our Church's tremendous diversity within the diocese
- Future directions for catechist formation
- How to better assist parishes in measuring and evaluating their faith formation efforts
- The centrality of evangelization in catechetical and, indeed, all parish ministry

I had two outcomes in mind in the scheduling of this joint day. First, I wanted to give the members of the board and the staff a fuller opportunity to get to know one another, both as people and as ministry leaders. With the help of wonderful prayer experiences, some socializing time and our small group discussions, both seemed to feel that this was accomplished.

The other goal was for the board members to provide a cross-section of input that would enrich the perspective of the REO staff and myself as we prepare to enter into a process of planning for the next two fiscal years, which begins in July of 2007. As I write to you, I am confident that this planning process, begun in late December, will be enriched by the sharing that took place.

I am most grateful to those who serve on the diocesan Religious Education Board. After accepting an appointment from our bishop, they make a commitment to represent various ministerial and geographical segments of catechetical ministry in our diocese. They participate in regular meetings with me to foster dialogue between parishes and the diocese. And they serve as conduits for information both to and from their ministry clusters. In my time as diocesan director, I have been consistently impressed with their willingness to help me to lead the REO from an informed perspective.

As we begin 2007, I'd like to name each of our current members, along with the parish they serve and the constituency they represent:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Parish</u>	<u>Constituency</u>
Theresa Palicka	St. Francis of Assisi, Bolingbrook	DRE-Will
Angela Scanlon	St. Peter the Apostle, Itasca	DRE-NE DuPage
Eileen Maggiore	Christ the King, Lombard	Young Adult
Christine Kancewick	SS. Peter and Paul, Naperville	Adult
Margaret Pinas	Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Darien	Adult
Mark Herwaldt	Corpus Christi, Carol Stream	Junior High YM
Matt Krumdrick	St. James the Apostle, Glen Ellyn	Senior High YM
Diane Ahlemeyer	St. Daniel the Prophet, Wheaton	DRE-West DuPage
Marjorie Cain	Holy Spirit, Naperville	Multicultural
Amy Bovie	Bishop Macnamara H.S.	Campus Ministry
Kim Rabideau	St. Peter, Clifton	DRE-Ford/Iroquois
Sr. Helen Jean Kormelink	Catholic Schools Office	<i>Ex Officio</i>
<i>Position OPEN</i>		School Principal
<i>Position OPEN</i>		DRE-Kankakee
<i>Position OPEN</i>		Priest

NCCYM 2006

"...and the desert shall bloom"



"The conference was very affirming and supportive of the youth ministry work we all do at home. The keynote speakers were exceptional. The workshops were very informative, The schedule was hectic! It was a great time packed into 3 1/2 days. The desert did bloom."

- Michelle Barrie
St. Teresa/St Patrick,
Kankakee

"The National Conference of Catholic Youth Ministry was a wonderful opportunity to not only grow in my faith and youth ministry skills, but also to share fellowship with my peers from across the country. It was an uplifting, spiritual and dynamic weekend. I look forward to sharing the information I learned with my parish and youth ministry family back at St. Paul's."

- Jeremy Hylka
St. Paul the Apostle, Joliet

"The conference was a terrific experience surrounded by some of the best keynote speakers available. The time spent with fellow diocesan personnel was rewarding and the resources available were out of this world."

- Matthew Krumdrick
St. James, Glen Ellyn

Youth Ministry Clusters

Naperville Senior High Youth Ministry Cluster

January 11, 2007

Holy Spirit, Naperville - 2pm - 4pm

February 8, 2007

SS. Peter and Paul, Naperville - 2pm - 4pm

Naperville Junior High Youth Ministry Cluster

January 9, 2007

St. Thomas the Apostle, Naperville
10am - Noon

February 6, 2007

St. Dominic, Bolingbrook - 10am - Noon

Joliet Cluster Youth Ministry

*St. Paul, Joliet - 3:30 pm

January 8, 2007

February 5, 2007

For more information contact Paul Mach (815) 727-6411 or pmach@dioceseofjoliet.org

South of the Border Cluster

(Northern DuPage)

*St. Petronille, Glen Ellyn - 10:00am

January 24, 2007

February 28, 2007

East Will County Cluster

*St. Anthony Frankfort - 1:00pm

January 24, 2007

February 28, 2007

SE DuPage Cluster

January 11, 2007

St. Joseph, Downers Grove - Noon

Kankakee Cluster

January 22, 2007

St. Patrick, Kankakee - Noon

February 26, 2007

St. Joseph, Bradley - Noon

Check out the Youth Ministry page of the REO website for more information on the following events and much more:

www.dioceseofjoliet.org/reo/youthministry.asp

January 18th Youth Ministers Retreat registration - Led by Frank Mercadante

February 17-19th T.E.C. Retreat Information and Application

July 20-22 - YLC 2007 "See the Lord, Be A New Creation"



Survivor

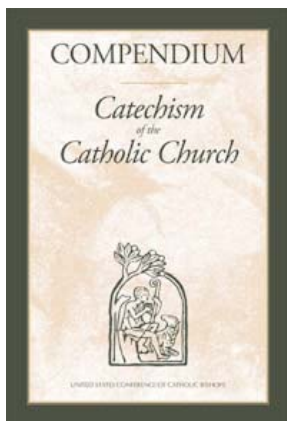
- It's a Jungle Out There!

In an on-going diocesan effort to help parishes reach out to their early teens, the REO is sponsoring an evening for 7th graders March 6 - 9 p.m. at Joliet Catholic Academy in Joliet. The evening will feature Ben Schumann, who is a former student of Columbine High School in Littleton Colorado. He survived the massacre at Columbine on April 20, 1999 when two teens went on a shooting rampage. After high school, he spent two years in the seminary. Ben's next venture was in foreign missions. He spent his first year on the island of St. Vincent and his second year was spent in the Philippines. He will talk about the tools needed to survive in the teen jungle.

The evening will include live music with Dan Wolff who is an awesome contemporary Catholic musician. A pizza dinner will be served starting at 5:30 p.m. There will be "Survivor" games and a tribal competition. The cost of the evening is \$10.00. The deadline to sign-up is February 23rd, 2007. Don't miss out on an opportunity to reach your early teens! For more information, call Mark Herwaldt at 630-483-4226.

The Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church – It's Not for Young Children

Joyce Donahue



A recent series in the *To Teach* newsletter of the USCCB Department of Education, distributed by email to elementary school principals and some DRE's, suggests the use of the *Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church* with children. The articles suggest a few questions appropriate for each month, with the instructions to "teach" the children the questions and then have them memorize the answers from the *Compendium*.

We would ask those who are considering using the compendium with children - for any reason - to consider the following cautions:

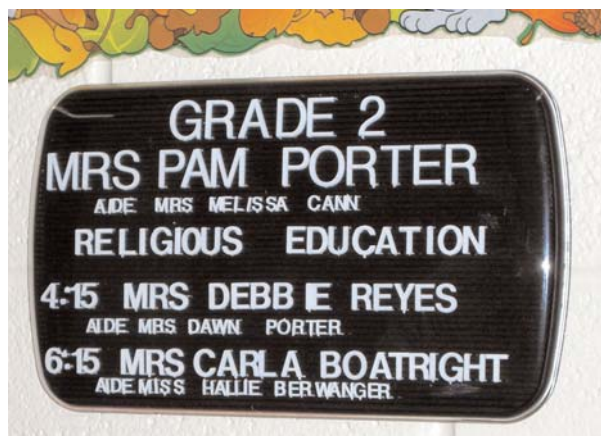
- The language of the *Compendium* is not age-appropriate for young children. Older youth, young adults and adults are the intended audience for this book, by USCCB Publishing's own promotional materials.
- Never have people memorize the *Compendium* answers without helping them understand the context i.e., how they relate to lived faith experience.
- The *Compendium* is not a stand-alone resource in place of a catechetical textbook.
- The *Compendium* is not a Confirmation preparation handbook.

The best use for the *Compendium* is as a supplement to the Catechism, or to a full catechetical text. It can be a convenient instrument for introducing or reviewing the truths of the faith for RCIA, for Confirmandi, for young adults, and for catechists or parents of children in faith formation programs.

If you have specific questions on how to use the *Compendium*, please contact Joyce Donahue at jdonahue@dioceseofjoliet.org or 815-727-6411.

"The best use for the Compendium is as a supplement to the Catechism, or to a full catechetical text."

WHEN TEACHERS AND CATECHISTS TRULY SHARE A ROOM....



Joanne Podgorski, REO consultant for school evaluations, snapped this photo at St. Joseph School in Bradley, where, as in many parishes, catechists share classroom space with school teachers. What a great idea!

Two more events for Early Teens

The REO is sponsoring an additional event to help parishes reach out to their early teen youth. The evening for 6th graders will be held on April 20, 2007 from 6 - 9 pm at Benet Academy in Lisle. We are looking for 10 churches to perform a story from the Old or New Testament. We will have judges. John Lamperis will be the emcee. Dan Wolff will provide live music. It will include a pizza dinner. The theme is "American Idol - Who do you worship?"



In addition, The REO will be sponsoring an event for all early teens on April 14th in the southern part of the Joliet Diocese. More details on both events to follow in the next *Leaven*. For more information on any early teen event, call Mark Herwaldt, REO consultant for Junior High Youth Ministry, at 630-483-4226.

Evangelization Is For Everybody!



Don't miss the next Catholic Speakers Online session from Paulist National Catholic Evangelization Association. On January 25, 2007, at 1 p.m. the topic will be "The Evangelizing Community at Mass". Fr. Tony Krisak, of PNCEA, will be the presenter. He asks:

- *What steps can parishioners take to participate more fully and actively?*
- *What steps can leaders take to encourage fuller participation?*

Signing up is simple: visit

<https://pncea.webex.com> and click on Training Center, search for January 25, 2007 to find the session, click "register." When you register you will be get a confirmation email which also contains information on free Attendee Guides for those who have not attended a Webex meeting before. Follow the instructions in the email to download the WebEx software if you are a first time user. These live online meetings require an internet connection of 56K or higher and a telephone.



The Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation

A New Year Resolution Idea...



Make a New Year's resolution to better understand your Catholic faith and to share your experiences with others. What better way to spend those long, cold, dreary winter days and nights than talking with other adults about our God!

Register now for the University of Dayton online Adult Faith Formation classes! Cycle 1 begins on 1/7/07; Cycle 2 begins on 2/25/07 with registration beginning on 1/9/07.

The following classes are offered for Cycle 1:

- ◆Advanced Ecclesiology 1
- ◆Catholic Beliefs
- ◆Church and Communication
- ◆Church History 1
- ◆Conscience
- ◆Evangelization
- ◆Sacraments
- ◆Introduction to Catechesis
- ◆National Directory for Catechesis
- ◆On Bended Knee (3 week seminar)
- ◆Our Hearts Were Burning (3 week seminar)
- ◆Overview of GDC/NCD (3 week seminar)
- ◆Scripture: Introduction
- ◆Poverty in the U.S. and Around the World
- ◆Survey of Catholic Doctrine
- ◆Scripture: New Testament
- ◆Scripture: Old Testament

The Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation (VLCFF) program is a great way for you to begin your New Year; with a refreshed understanding of Catholicism and Catechesis. For more information, go to the VLCFF website <http://vlc.udayton.edu/> or contact Nancy Dunn, Catechetical Associate for Catechist Formation at Ndunn@dioceseofjoliet.org or phone at (815) 727-6411 x264.

The REO has been promoting the University of Dayton Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation (VLCFF) program for almost a year now. With more and more catechetical leaders taking advantage of this distance-learning faith formation program, we have invited personal experiences to be shared with you all directly. Roberta Balsewicz is the Director of Religious Formation at Christ the Servant Catholic Church. Roberta is in her 17th year of Religious Education with two years as a Director of Religious Formation and 15 years as a Coordinator of Religious Education. She describes her experience...

"The classes are content rich and the interactive postings are an integral component to the learnings. I have participated in class communities that are quite diverse. The mix of men and women, young adult through seniors, catechists, Catholic school teachers, professional catechetical leaders, doctors, retired parishioners, young parents have all added to the many and different viewpoints that are shared. The classes are filled on a first come, first enrolled basis and the community mix also includes varied geographic regions. It has been quite interesting to share ideas, discuss practices and traditions with people from all over the country and in the comfort of my own home. Participants are expected to "post" throughout the week and so I find myself on the computer in the wee hours and at day-break; which works around my schedule.

I have added to my understanding of the Catholic faith and have discovered yet another way to center my attention on my personal relationship with Christ. To date, I have completed four classes and am registered to begin my fifth class. I have really enjoyed the VLCFF experience."

If you would like to share your VLCFF experiences with your peers, please email Nancy Dunn at ndunn@dioceseofjoliet.org.



Would you like to host Theology-on-Tap?

This coming July, if your parish, college, or area would like to host the annual Theology-on-Tap summer speaker series, please contact Paul Jarzembowski at the Diocesan Religious Education Office no later than January 31, 2007.

From coast to coast, Theology-on-Tap is regarded as one of the premier ways of connecting the Church to men and women in college or in their twenties and thirties.

Here's how it works: On the same evening for four consecutive weeks in July 2007, parishes and college campuses will present speakers who will talk or lead discussions with young adults on faith issues that are relevant and meaningful to their real life experiences. These parishes and campuses often provide refreshments or snacks, and most importantly, a welcoming atmosphere.

This year in the Diocese of Joliet, our goal is to expand the speaker series to parishes in the southern counties of the diocese, and to have sites targeted specifically to collegiate-age young adults, to young engaged and married couples, and to Hispanic young adults.

This is a great way to evangelize and connect with college students and young adults of our area.

If you are interested in hosting or want more information contact Paul Jarzembowski, Coordinator of Young Adult Ministry (815) 727-6411, x261 or email pjarzembowski@dioceseofjoliet.org.

Pope Benedict, Sydney, and Young Adults



World Youth Day is open to college students and twenty-somethings, too!

The next World Youth Day pilgrimage is open to individuals who will be college students or young adults in their twenties and early thirties in July 2008.

Registration is now open for these collegians and young adults. For registration forms, itinerary, and other information about World Youth Day, log onto the Diocese of Joliet WYD Web Page: www.dioceseofjoliet.org/reo/wyd2008.asp

Around the world, the word "youth" means more than it does in the United States. Whereas this term means teenager in our country, it means 16 to 35-year olds in other cultures and nations. This age range is the intended target age for World Youth Day. The 2008 WYD pilgrimage from the Diocese of Joliet with Bishop J. Peter Sartain is open to all these ages.

Registration is already filling up fast. Spread the word about this trip to collegians and young adults in your parish today



IF YOU ARE INTERESTED in WYD 2008 or WANT MORE INFORMATION:

Contact Paul Jarzembowski, Coordinator of Young Adult Ministry (815) 727-6411, x261 or email pjarzembowski@dioceseofjoliet.org.



Want to learn how to do good young adult ministry?

Come and hear from the experts...

National Catholic Young Adult Ministry Forum

Sunday through Tuesday, May 20 to 22, 2007

Mt. Manresa Jesuit Retreat House Staten Island, New York



For more information, contact Paul Jarzembowski at (815) 727-6411, x261

Hosted by the National Catholic Young Adult Ministry Association (NCYAMA)

REO CALENDAR

(Updates are made regularly on the REO website:
www.dioceseofjoliet.org/reo)

January 15, 2007

REO is CLOSED
Martin Luther King Jr. Day

January 18, 2007

Youth Ministry Retreat
St. Scholastica, Woodridge;
9:30am-2:30pm
Contact: Paul Mach

January 20, 2007

Catechist Initial Formation Day
SCPC, Romeoville
9am-1pm
Contact: Nancy Dunn

January 25, 2007

RE Board Meeting
SCPC, Romeoville
10am - Noon
Contact: Tom Quinlan

January 27- 28, 2007

YM Certificate Program
Loyola University
Contact: Paul Mach

February 7, 2007

Sr. Caroljean Willie-
Sponsored by Harcourt
SCPC, Romeoville
8:30am-Noon
Contact: Joyce Donahue

February 8, 2007

Sr. Caroljean Willie-
Sponsored by Harcourt
St. Mary, Plano
8:30am-Noon
Contact: Joyce Donahue

February 17-19, 2007

T.E.C. Retreat Program
Camp Mantoqua, Frankfort
Contact: Paul Mach

February 22, 2007

RE Board Meeting
SCPC, Romeoville
10am - Noon
Contact: Tom Quinlan

February 22, 2007

DAFF Meeting
SCPC, Romeoville
12:30 - 2:30pm
Contact: Tom Quinlan

Message Received for March 2007 Leadership Day!



The evaluations from the October 20, 2006 Leadership Day with Dan Mulhall clearly indicate that those who were there are ready to go deeper and ready for something practical they can use right here, right now. The Leadership Day *NDC* series was designed with exactly that in mind – starting off in October with the more theoretical, then delving into the practical for the March day.

Planning the transition from an instruction model to a formation model for catechesis, as called for by the *NDC* is the focus of the March Leadership

Day. This day will be practical and hands-on, in a workshop style. Each catechetical leader will use their current ministry as the starting point, then learn how to plan to transition that ministry to one that resembles a formation model. By the end of the day, each participant will leave with a practical steps for how to transition their current ministry into the formation model for catechesis, called for by the *NDC*.

The March Leadership Day will be offered in two locations. First, on March 8, 2007, Leadership Day will be offered at St. Daniel the Prophet Parish in Wheaton. Then, on March 9, 2007 Leadership Day will be offered at St. Anthony parish in Frankfort. Please see the inserted registration booklet to sign up. Contact Brian Topping via phone or email at btopping@dioceseofjoliet.org if you have questions. Looking forward to seeing you at one of the Leadership Days in March, 2007!

FOR SALE
(815) 727 - 6411

Audio Visual Equipment For Sale!

Periodically, the REO will sell equipment no longer actively being rented, or that has been replaced by the latest model. This is a great way to get top quality equipment that is in working condition for very little money. Contact Brian Topping with questions.

Sanyo PLC-XF10NZ Projector (2 for Sale) **\$750.00 each**



This large-venue projector features 3,000 ansi lumens, native XGA resolution, 350:1 contrast ratio, and a bulb with less than 100 hours on it. It also has any kind of connection interface you might need. Originally sold for \$7,500.00!! Comes with all cables, accessories, owners manual, remote and hard-sided wheeled carrying case. Great for use in large spaces! The REO used these machines for the Youth Leadership Conference in 2004 and 2005.

Phillips Hopper SV-10 (1 for sale) **\$250.00**



Want a great projector on a budget? This is it! The Phillips Hopper is an older, portable projector weighing in at 12 pounds and boasting 600 ansi lumens with SVGA resolution. It comes with padded nylon carrying bag, owners manual, all cables, and wireless remote. This is great for groups of up to 50 people.

Professional Grade Fog Machines (2 for sale) **\$100.00 each**



These fog machines pump out white, reliable fog. Featuring high fog output volume and interactive controls for remote activation, these durable machines will last for years to come. Includes machine, power cord, and fog liquid.