



DIOCESAN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWSLETTER MAY - JUNE 2007

YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE

It is always good to take time to acknowledge the thousands of catechetical leaders, catechists, teachers, aides and parents who cooperate with parish and school religious education programs, and most especially to recognize those who go above and beyond to demonstrate the virtues of sacrifice, hard work, and generosity for the children and teens in formation. The strength of the next generation is founded on the shoulders of good people who attend to their formation today, starting at home. God bless all of you in your good work!

CONGRATULATIONS, PETE RIES



On Wednesday, April 25, 2007 at the annual awards banquet of the National Conference for Catechetical Leadership in Columbus, Ohio, those in attendance joined in honoring our own Peter Ries, Diocesan Director of Evangelization, RCIA and Adult Faith Formation. Pete was presented the *Distinguished Service Award* recognizing his thirty-eight plus years of active ministry in the field of catechesis.

In his service to the ministry of catechesis, Ries has authored numerous articles and handbooks, has taught at the university level, established channels for parish catechetical leaders to advise the diocesan offices as well as enhance their ministry skills. He is also recognized for the implementation of *Café*, an initiative for adult faith formation in parishes and regions in the Diocese of Lansing.

Father David Loftus (*photo, left*), Vice President of NCCL, while making the presentation, drew comparisons between Peter the Apostle and Ries himself: "Like the apostles of ancient days, the recipient of our award has labored tirelessly, willingly and effectively for the sake of the Gospel without any thought for personal affirmation or recognition." Continuing, Fr. Loftus noted, "tonight's honoree is a person who has demonstrated a selflessness in service of the mission and ministry of catechesis that serves as an inspiration for our entire membership." Congratulations, Pete, for a well-deserved award!

THE DIOCESE OF LANSING WELCOMES:

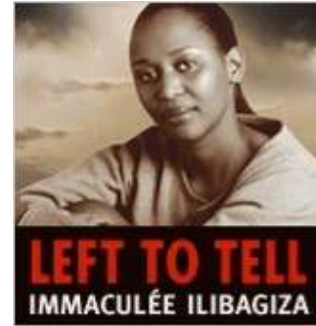
Two world-class speakers will be featured in the Diocese of Lansing this October: **Immaculée Iligabiza (October 4,5)**, and **His Eminence, Avery Cardinal Dulles (October 20,21)**:

❖ IMMACULÉE ILIBAGIZA

In the spring of 1994, more than one million people were murdered in the Rwandan genocide. **Immaculée Ilibagiza** will share her miraculous story of how she survived during this tragedy when she and seven other women huddled silently together in the cramped bathroom of a local pastor's house for 91 days.

With uncommon sincerity, Immaculée shares with us her soul's struggle through disbelief to anger and rage and, ultimately, forgiveness. Immaculée shows us how to embrace the power of prayer, forge a profound and lasting relationship with God, and discover the importance of forgiveness and the meaning of truly unconditional love and understanding — through our darkest hours.

Immaculée, author of *Left to Tell: Discovering God Amidst the Rwandan Holocaust*, will offer the same presentation at two sites. Choose the site that is best for you and bring a friend!



- Thursday night, October 4 - St. Francis of Assisi, Ann Arbor
- Friday daytime, October 5 - St. Thomas Aquinas, East Lansing

For more information contact: Sister Mary Ann Foggin, SGL, at (517) 342-2506 or mfoggin@dioceseoflansing.org.

❖ AVERY CARDINAL DULLES



The keynote speaker at Diocesan Catechetical Day 2007 (October 20 and 21) will be His Eminence, **Avery Cardinal Dulles, S.J.**, the Laurence J. McGinley Professor of Theology at Fordham University, who will speak on the theme "*Catechesis: Encountering the Living Christ.*"

Cardinal Dulles, an internationally known author and lecturer, entered the Society of Jesus in 1946 and was ordained to the priesthood in 1956. He was created a cardinal of the Catholic Church in Rome in 2001 by the late Pope John Paul II, the first American-born theologian who is not a bishop to receive this honor.

The author of over 750 articles, Cardinal Dulles has published 22 books, including the acclaimed *Models of the Church*. The 50th anniversary edition of his book, *A Testimonial to Grace*, the account of his conversion to Catholicism, was republished in 1996 by the original publishers, Sheed and Ward, with an afterword containing his reflections on the 50 years since he became a Catholic.

In addition to his current position at Fordham, he has served on the faculty of many universities and seminaries, including Catholic University of America, the Gregorian University (Rome), the University of Notre Dame, the Catholic University at Leuven, and Yale University.

Cardinal Dulles is past president of both the Catholic Theological Society of America and the American Theological Society. He was a member of the United States Lutheran/Roman Catholic Dialogue and currently is a consultant to the Committee on Doctrine of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Diocesan Catechetical Day 2007 will feature exhibitors, formation workshops, and faith-building opportunities. Both days will close with the celebration of Mass. The same event will be held in two locations:

- Saturday, October 20 - Catechetical Day (West) - Lansing Catholic High School, Lansing.
- Sunday, October 21 - Catechetical Day (East) - Fr. Gabriel Richard High School, Ann Arbor.

The registration fee is \$39 per person with a 10% discount for ten or more from the same parish or school. After the registration deadline of October 4, the registration fee is \$49.

For more information, contact Michael Andrews, Director of Catechesis at mandrews@dioceseoflansing.org or (517) 342-2479.



**CATECHETICAL SUNDAY
2007**

**“CATECHESIS:
ENCOUNTERING THE
LIVING CHRIST”**

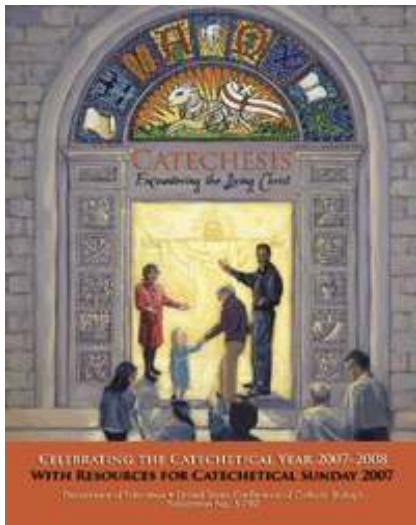
RESOURCES – 2007 CATECHETICAL SUNDAY KIT

The materials from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Department of Education are designed to assist you in celebrating the catechetical theme Catechesis: Encountering the Living Christ on National Catechetical Sunday (September 16, 2007) as well as throughout the year. The kit includes:

- ❖ Bishop's Greeting
- ❖ Theme Statement: Catechesis: Encountering the Living Christ
- ❖ Making the Most of the Catechetical Sunday Materials
- ❖ Sample Parish Bulletin Campaign
- ❖ Talking Points
- ❖ Commissioning Service
- ❖ Catechist's Prayer
- ❖ Family Commitment Prayer
- ❖ Prayer Services and Retreats
- ❖ Living Out Your Commitment to Catechesis Year-Round
- ❖ Clip Art

If you are interested in the Catechetical Sunday Kit, please contact Kimmel Griwatch (517) 342-2479 by August 24. The cost of the kit is \$14.35 + postage.

2007 CATECHETICAL SUNDAY POSTER



The theme for Catechetical Sunday 2007, *Catechesis: Encountering the Living Christ*, flows from the National Directory for Catechesis which more than twenty times mentions the need for people to have an encounter with God, Jesus Christ, and the Church. This emphasis on the need for a deep and personal encounter with Christ shapes how we both think about and do catechesis.

The artwork, created by artist Fran Gregory, attempts to capture the idea that catechesis serves as a doorway through which Christ is encountered. The doorway being entered stands for the way in which catechesis provides an entry for people into the Church. Surrounding this doorway are symbols that illustrate Word and worship, sacraments and Christian witness—all means for our encountering Christ through the Church. There should be no doubt that the artwork says that all catechesis flows from the Church and leads us back to the

Church, a theme developed in Chapter 4 of the National Directory for Catechesis.

In many parishes throughout the Diocese of Lansing, those delegated by the community to serve as catechists will be called forth to be commissioned for their ministry. Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect upon the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel as well as to rededicating himself or herself to this mission within the community of faith.

If you are interested in the Catechetical Sunday 2007 Poster, please contact Kimmel Griwatch (517) 342-2479 by August 24. The cost of the poster is \$2.70 + postage.

MINISTRY CERTIFICATION PROCESS – A BRIEF OVERVIEW

Ministry Certification is for any persons serving in a leadership position for a parish (or Church) based ministry. These ecclesial ministers should apply for ministry certification by contacting the Director of one of the following Diocesan Offices:

1. Catechesis (DREs and RE Section Heads) – Michael Andrews
2. Evangelization, RCIA and Adult Faith Formation – Peter Ries
3. Youth and Young Adult Ministry (Youth Ministers) – Patrick Rinker
4. Lay Ministry (Pastoral Ministers & Pastoral Associates) – Nancy Joseph

Level I - Provisional Certification is given to a minister with 8 or more clock hours of ministry training in the area of the minister's responsibilities. (i.e. catechesis, pastoral care)

Level II - Provisional Certification is given to a minister participating in an approved program for theological study, after the person has completed between 6 and 15 academic credits (2 - 5 courses) and participated in foundational workshops for spiritual formation.

Level III - Basic Certification, with USCCB Approval, is granted to formation program students after they have earned 18 academic credits in theology - the equivalent of an academic minor and completed basic spiritual formation requirements for ministers. This includes spirituality workshops, an overnight retreat and working with a spiritual director.

Certification for Levels I, II and III is granted by the director of the office reviewing a minister's credentials. The four office directors help certification applicants chart out a realistic plan for acquiring ministry formation appropriate for their level of responsibility.

Applicants for *Levels IV and V; Intermediate and Advanced Certification with USCCB Approval*, also begin the process with a review of their credentials by an office director. Ministers are eligible to apply for *Intermediate Certification, Level IV* when they have completed: (1) 12 courses in the Ministry Formation Program OR 36 (approved) credits in theological study - the equivalent of an academic major; (2) basic spiritual formation and (3) one year of full time ministry experience (or equivalent). Ministers who have completed graduate studies in theology, along with their spiritual formation and ministry experience are eligible to apply for *Advanced Certification - Level V*.

Step 1: Applicants submit credentials and background information for a *Ministry File* which is reviewed by an Office Director.

Step 2: The Director submits selected info from the applicant's ministry file to a team of 3 -5 members of the Certification Review Board for a second review.

Step 3: The Team interviews the applicant (approximately 1/2 hour); then submits a report and recommendation to the full Certification Review Board (18 members).

Step 4: The Board votes on application requests.

Step 5: Applicants are either certified or they are notified what they need to do to meet the requirements for certification. Certification lasts for five years is renewable.

For further information, contact Nancy Joseph, Director, Office of Lay Ministry, (517) 342-2512 or njoseph@dioceseoflansing.org

MINISTRY FORMATION SUMMER AND FALL, 2007

Formation is a requirement for all lay ministers holding positions of leadership in a parish. That includes DRE's, Pastoral Ministers, CYMs and Young Adult leaders.

Siena Heights University, Ministry Formation Program Fall 2007

RST 302 - *Intro. to Hebrew Scriptures* - Jackson, Queen of the Miraculous Medal Parish - Kevin Perrotta

RST 303 - *Intro. To Christian Scriptures* - Ypsilanti, St. John the Baptist Parish - Dr. Mary Dumm

RST 305 - *Ethics* - Flint, St. Pius X Parish - Rev. Bill Wegher

RST 345 - *Liturgical Catechesis* - Lansing, Diocesan Center - Rev. Dwight Ezop

RST 365 - *Catechetical Methodology* - Lansing, Diocesan Center - TBA

For more information, contact Sister Marilyn Barnett, OP at mbarnett@sienaheights.edu

Catechist Training Opportunities

Jackson Region

Summer Sensations – St Joseph Shrine, Brooklyn – six Mondays in June and July

Monday, June 18, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Church (#11)

Enrichment: *Partner's Patterns – Marriage Enrichment* – Karin Gray

Monday, June 25, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

New Testament Gospels (# 18)

Enrichment: **Cultural Mythology** – Ronald Landfair

Monday, July 2, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

New Testament Acts and Letters (#19)

Enrichment: **DisAbility Ministry in Action: Opening Doors, Minds & Hearts** – Joann Davis

Monday, July 9, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

How to Use the Bible (#20)

Enrichment: **The Challenges of Parenting** – Karin Gray

Monday, July 16, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Moral Development (#21)

Enrichment: **The Spirituality of Everyday Life** – Sharon Wimple

For registration form:

http://www.dioceseoflansing.org/catechesis_k12/index.html

Lenawee - Hillsdale Region (2)

Opportunities in the Sun 2007 – St Mary of Good Counsel, Adrian – August 3-4

- All twenty-two topics are offered in a two-day period
- Child care is available
- Facilities are air conditioned and handicapped accessible
- Each class is \$7.00
- Snacks and beverages available; meals on your own

For registration form:

http://www.dioceseoflansing.org/catechesis_k12/index.html

Summer Evenings at the Lake – St Mary on the Lake Catholic Church, Manitou Beach – June 25-29

5:00 pm – Potluck Supper

6-8 pm – Adult Formation Sessions / Vacation Bible School

8 pm – Snack for adults and VBS children

Monday, June 25 – Ministry of the Catechist (#1)

Tuesday, June 26 – The Learning Process and Faith Development (#2)

Wednesday, June 27 – Lesson Planning (#3)

Thursday, June 28 – Effective Catechetical Techniques (#4)

Friday, June 29 – Managing Student Behavior (#5)

Each evening's session is \$7.00.

For registration form: http://www.dioceseoflansing.org/catechesis_k12/index.html

Lansing Region

Saturday, September 22, 2007 at St. Gerard

Cost for the Day is 22.50 payable to St. Gerard, ORE

Contact is Kathy Warriner, 321-4179

Prayer @ 8:30am

Session 1 / 9a-10:45a: #5 Classroom Management, #9 Jesus Christ , #17 Key People of the OT

Session 2 / 11a-12:45p: #1 Ministry of the Catechist, #10 Mary & The Saints, #18 Gospels

Session 3 / 1p-2:45p: #2 Learning Process/Faith Devel., #13 Sacraments, #22

Catechesis/Social Justice

Saturday, January 19, 2008 at IHM

Cost for the Day is \$15 payable to St. Gerard, ORE

Contact is Kathy Warriner, 321-4179

Prayer @ 8:30am

Session 1: 9a-10:45a: #3 Lesson Planning, #11 Church, #19 Acts & Letters

Session 2: 11a-12:45p: #4 Catechetical Techniques, #12 Liturgy, #20 How to Use the Bible

Genesee - Owosso Region

St John, Fenton

Tuesday	July 10, 2007	#9 Jesus Christ
Wednesday	July 11, 2007	#6 What is Faith
Tuesday	July 17, 2007	#14 Prayer
Wednesday	July 18, 2007	#18 New Testament Gospels
Tuesday	July 24, 2007	#7 Mystery of the Triune God
Wednesday	July 25, 2007	#1 Ministry of the Catechist
Tuesday	July 31, 2007	#4 Effective Catechetical Techniques

To reserve your space call 629-1850 or contact Elaine at DREelaine@aol.com

Livingston Region

None reported

Washtenaw Region

None reported

RETREAT DAY

“NO CATECHIST LEFT BEHIND”

“No Catechist Left Behind” a day of prayer and preparation for catechists will be offered on Saturday, September 8, 2007 at Bethany House, St Francis Retreat Center, 703 East Main Street, DeWitt from 9:30 am to 3 pm. The main speaker will be Mr Kevin Perotta, editor of *Six Weeks with the Bible for Catholic Teens*. The day will include Mass and the opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Total cost: \$22 per person (includes lunch). To register, contact Shiela at (517) 669-8321, ext. 11.

OFFICE OF FAMILY LIFE MINISTRY

MINISTRY WITH FAMILIES 201

The Institute for Family Life Training within the National Association of Catholic Family Life Ministers (NACFLM) will conduct its Ministry With Families 201 course in Lansing on Monday and Tuesday, 8-9 October 2007. This two-day course is designed to address the needs of participants exposed to ministry with a family perspective. The course is the second of two introductory formation experiences for all whose ministry efforts touch families. It was formulated to address the particular needs of new family ministers and others who want to develop a family perspective in their ministry efforts.

If you did not attend the Ministry With Families 101 course last year and have a background in family systems, you may still be eligible to attend this most valuable training experience. Please call the Office of Family Life Ministry, Deacon Tom Fogle, at 517-342-2471 to discuss eligibility.

OFFICE OF YOUTH MINISTRY

NUTS & BOLTS CONFERENCE

Nuts & Bolts for adults ministering with youth and young adults, including young adult leaders, is August 17-19 at The Weber Inn in Ann Arbor. The theme of this year's conference is, “The Gospel for Youth & Young Adults”. Two national speakers will join us. Terri Telepak from the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry, will present our keynote plus a workshop track unfolding the *National Study on Youth & Religion*. This in-depth interview process tells us much on where our young people are currently and what helps in their formation. Ken Johnson-Mondragon will unfold the Hispanic report in a Spanish-speaking track.

There will also be tracks for basic training in both youth & young adult ministry. For information, contact Pat Rinker at 517-342-2484 or go online for registration material <http://www.dioceseoflansing.org/youthministry/index.html>.

ETERNAL REST

Kindly remember in your prayers:

✘ **Ron Hurlburt** (April 11), husband of Julie Hurlburt, Principal at Saint Mary School, Jackson.

✘ **Marie Polzin** (May 6), mother of Elaine Davis, Director of Religious Education at Saint John the Evangelist, Davison; commissioned Lay Ecclesial Minister; and Genesee-Owosso Representative, DRE Advisory Committee.

PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR JULY 2007

1. Thomas Furnass (Fr Luke M. Powers High School, Flint)
2. Theology Department (Fr Luke M. Powers High School, Flint)
3. Ken Bachman (Holy Rosary School, Flint)
4. Kathleen Slattery (St John Vianney School, Flint)
5. Sister Kathleen Avery, OSM (St Pius X School, Flint)

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|------------------------------|--|
| 6. Susan Sharp | (St Robert Bellarmine School, Flushing) |
| 7. Anne Hufnagel | (Most Holy Trinity School, Fowler) |
| 8. Carla Corrado | (Holy Family School, Grand Blanc) |
| 9. Mitzi Luttrull | (St Michael School, Grand Ledge) |
| 10. Anna Piccirillo Loewe | (Holy Spirit School, Hamburg) |
| 11. Pope Benedict XVI | |
| 12. Bishop Carl F. Mengeling | |
| 13. Kathleen Freeman | (St Joseph School, Howell) |
| 14. Angela Johnston | (Sacred Heart School, Hudson) |
| 15. Tony Shaughnessy | (Jackson Catholic Middle School, Jackson) |
| 16. Patrick Kalahar | (Lumen Christi High School, Jackson) |
| 17. Theology Department | (Lumen Christi High School, Jackson) |
| 18. Ruth Benner | (Queen of the Miraculous Medal School, Jackson) |
| 19. Kathy Tarnacki | (St John the Evangelist School, Jackson) |
| 20. Julia Hurlburt | (St Mary, Star of the Sea / St Stanislaus Kostka School) |
| 21. Judith Meerschaert | (IHM / St Casmir School, Lansing) |
| 22. Shannon Kahne | (Resurrection School, Lansing) |
| 23. Lynn Fuller | (St Gerard School, Lansing) |
| 24. Douglas Mumby, Sr | (St Therese School, Lansing) |
| 25. Colleen McNeal | (Our Lady of Fatima School, Michigan Center) |
| 26. Dennis R Winchester | (St Mary School, Mt Morris) |
| 27. Francie Herring | (St Martha School, Okemos) |
| 28. Rita Gregoricka | (St Paul School, Owosso) |
| 29. Suzanne Cowdrey | (St Mary School, Pinckney) |
| 30. Tomi Ann Schultheiss | (St Joseph School, St Johns) |
| 31. Raymond Rzpecki | (St Mary School, Westphalia) |

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE OF LIFE

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7/5th of all people do not understand fractions.

* * *

Give a man a fish, and he will eat for a day.

Teach a man how to fish, and he will sit in a boat and drink beer all day.

* * *

A friend is someone who knows the song in your heart,
and can sing it back to you when you have forgotten the words.

DUE DATE

Submissions for the next e-Newsletter are due JULY 12th.

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