



October, 2010

Department of Education and Catechesis  
Department of Catholic Charities

## **DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND CATECHESIS**

### **Celebrating Twenty Five Years of Forming Young Catholic Disciples**

This year we celebrated twenty five years of the Diocesan Youth Leadership Camp (DYLC). We actually celebrated more than that. We celebrated, by the grace of God, that we are a diocese that has valued youth discipleship and their call to ministry in the life and mission of the Church.

I have been involved in leadership formation of young people for over three decades in many dioceses. I can honestly say that the Diocese of Lansing DYLC employs the principles of youth ministry with more integrity than any other program I have seen.

The four dimensions of youth ministry are “with, to, by, and for”. We minister to and for young people but we also minister with them and often ministry is by them. Too many times ministry leaders fail to appreciate the tremendous gift of faith in our young people. Too many times we underestimate the gifts of the Holy Spirit in them and the gifts they have to share according to the ministries to which they have been called. We provide for them expecting them to respond, when by doing so we have failed to acknowledge who they are in Christ.

They are the Body of Christ as much as any of us and they show it year after year at DYLC. For 10 months, 13 teens and a dozen adults work together as the DYLC team, planning every day of

the leadership camp. These teens have gone through the DYLC experience themselves and are certified at Level I of our formation program for Lay Ecclesial Ministers. They are gifted and faith filled. They have depth in their planning and in their faith life. They bring to the table so much enthusiasm, creativity, and a willingness to work with each other, teens and adults, to provide a new leadership formation experience each year.

They also show it through answering the call to ministry in their parishes. Every year we do an annual data-gathering of formation of our children, youth and adults. Every year, at the top of the list of activities for our high school youth, is Christian service. Every year 35 – 40 parishes do service trips in the spring and summer. Every year our college campus ministries have 15-20 service groups that go out during their spring break on mission to those in need. For the past six years we have had at least 50 teens sign up for diocesan committees. Every year more and more of our youth answer the vocational call to discipleship. Praise God!

The three goals of youth ministry: forming Christian disciples; calling youth to responsible participation in the life and mission of the Church and, responding to the total needs of youth, guides the planning of DYLC and is fulfilled year after year for the benefit of the next group of new young leaders. They come out of this experience ready to serve as Disciples of Christ, in His Church today. Many parishes have benefitted from their service on parish youth ministry teams, as liturgical ministers, on pastoral councils, as catechists, youth leaders, and in many other roles.

As time passes many of these teen leaders continue to answer God's call to ministry in vocations of priesthood, religious life, married life, Lay Ecclesial Ministry and in many volunteer lay ministry positions in their parishes. We have helped produce a generation of spirit-filled, collaborative leaders, with the skills to serve and the heart of Christ love. Praise God for what DYLC has been for 25 years. Praise God for all the fruit of our ministerial efforts in forming young Catholic disciples.

Love in Jesus,  
Pat Rinker

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### **ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**

Bishop Boyea and Fr. Steve Mattson, Superintendent of Schools for the Diocese of Lansing, are pleased to announce the hiring of Mr. Sean Costello as Associate Superintendent of Schools for the Diocese of Lansing. Sean was raised in Otisville, MI and spent time as a college seminarian for the Diocese of Lansing before continuing his studies in English and History at the University of Michigan, Flint and obtaining his teacher certification through the University of Detroit-Mercy. He holds a Master's of Science in Educational Leadership from Cardinal Stritch University, and

has spent time teaching in public, private, and Catholic schools. He is married to his wife of ten years, Elisa (Ely), and they have two children, Maggie and Tim.

In this newly created position, Sean will be working with the Superintendent of Schools to help develop and implement a strategic plan aimed at strengthening our Catholic schools. In collaboration with the Superintendent and building administrators, Sean will oversee curriculum development, assessment, accreditation, and professional development opportunities for teachers and administrators.

Sean brings a vibrant faith, clear conviction, and strong leadership skills to this position. Fr. Steve looks forward to working with Sean and the many stakeholders in our schools to ensure that our schools are marked by academic excellence and fidelity to the Gospel mandate to spread the good news and make disciples. Fr. Steve is convinced that the hiring of an Associate Superintendent will be a significant investment in the future of our schools, in our local church, and the communities where we serve. Sean will begin his employment with the Diocese of Lansing on January 3, 2011, after he fulfills his current teaching and administrative responsibilities at Wayland Academy in Beaver Dam, Wisconsin. Please pray for Sean and his family in this time of transition.

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**Catechist Formation Opportunities:**

**Clinton/Shiawassee Vicariate** - Hosted at St Paul, Owosso: November 8 – Topic #3 ***Lesson Planning/ The Text as a Tool***; November 22 – Topic #4 ***Some Effective Catechetical Techniques***; December 6 – Topic #5 ***Managing Student Behavior***. For more information or to register: [http://www.dioceseoflansing.org/catechesis\\_k12/Clinton\\_Shiawassee\\_Owosso.pdf](http://www.dioceseoflansing.org/catechesis_k12/Clinton_Shiawassee_Owosso.pdf)

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**Jamboree Mailing** has gone out and it includes posters, brochures, and all paperwork for the event. Additional material is on our youth ministry web page: <http://www.dioceseoflansing.org/youthministry/index.html> . The event takes place at Lansing Center, November 7. Steve Angrisano is our keynote speaker ([http://web.mac.com/sangrisano/Steve\\_Angrisano/Home.html](http://web.mac.com/sangrisano/Steve_Angrisano/Home.html) ) The houseband will be Noelle Garcia, and Bishop Boyea will celebrate Mass with other priests from our diocese.

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**NCCYM and NCYAMA Leadership Forum** will take place this December in New Orleans. We have had over 50 youth & young adult ministry leaders attend this adult leadership conference

for several years. Please plan on attending for great formation, inspiration and networking. For more information, visit <http://nccym.nfcym.org/> . We need to know who is going from our diocese and how many will join us for the Diocesan dinner at Mothers, Saturday night. Please contact Pat Rinker via e-mail to: [prinker@dioceseoflansing.org](mailto:prinker@dioceseoflansing.org)

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**Introduction to Youth Ministry, Siena Course RST215** is coming this Winter. All CYM's should at least have level II certification within their first two years if not before their hire date. This is one of two courses required for level II. The other is Catechetical Methodology. More information is available for view or download at: [http://www.dioceseoflansing.org/youthministry/RST215\\_YM\\_Course\\_2011.pdf](http://www.dioceseoflansing.org/youthministry/RST215_YM_Course_2011.pdf)

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### **Calendar Reminders**

#### November

- 1 All Saints Day, (Monday, not a Holy Day of Obligation)
- 2 All Souls Day
- 6 Lay Ecclesial Ministers' Breakfast, 9:00 a.m., St. Mary Cathedral Hall
- 6 Lay Ecclesial Commissioning, 10:30 a.m., St. Mary Cathedral
- 7 High School Jamboree, Lansing Center
- 10 Diocesan Worship Commission, 10:30 to 3:00
- 13 Scout Meeting, 10:00 am, St. Patrick Church, Brighton
- 12-14 Refresh Retreat for Young Adult Singles
- 17 DEC Staff Meeting -- 10am – 12pm
- 18 Diocesan Board of Education and Catechesis
- 19 LEM Convocation, St. Mary Magdalen, Brighton, 8:30 – 3:30 PM
- 20 State Encuentro, Grand Rapids
- 22 Evangelization Committee, 9:30 – 1:00 pm
- 25 Thanksgiving Day, Offices Closed
- 26 Offices Closed
- 28 First Sunday of Advent
- 30 Principals' Meeting 9am– 3:30pm

#### December

- 4 Youth Events & DYAC, 10:00 – 1:00 pm, St. Mary Magdalen, Brighton
- 8 Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, Holy Day of Obligation
- 8&9 NCYAMA Forum, New Orleans

- 9 Solemnity of the Anniversary of the Dedication of St. Mary Cathedral (Feast in all parishes)
- 9-12 NCCYM, New Orleans, LA
- 13 Young Adult Council, 6:30 pm, Diocesan Center
- 14 CYM Advisory, 9:00 – 1:00 pm, Diocesan Center
- 24-1 Offices Closed
- 25 The Nativity of the Lord/ Christmas

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### **2010-2011 Calendar**

[http://www.dioceseoflansing.org/education\\_catechesis/2010\\_11\\_ed\\_cat\\_calendar.pdf](http://www.dioceseoflansing.org/education_catechesis/2010_11_ed_cat_calendar.pdf)

## **DEPARTMENT OF CATHOLIC CHARITIES**

### **Persons with disAbilities**

Rainbow Homes began in the Ministry with Persons with disAbilities in 1989, as a dream of a small group of parents and advocates. This Christian non-profit offers, a supported living environment to 26 adults with cognitive disAbilities located in Holt, Michigan. In addition to apartment style living residences, it also offers day and overnight respite for those adults who choose to live at home. Rainbow Homes recognizes a cognitive disAbility as a natural part of the human experience. A disAbility should not diminish the right of an individual to live independently, exert control and choice over his/her life, or to fully participate in and contribute to his/her community. Residents receive assistance to enjoy full integration and inclusion into the spiritual, economic, political, social, cultural, and educational mainstream of society. To find out more about this organization that has changed the life experience of 26 adults with cognitive disAbilities and their families for over eleven years, visit its website or call Susan at 517-699-8454. Please consider making a donation or attending its Silent Auction & Dinner to be held at IHM Parish on February 5, 2010. For more information, visit [www.rainbowhomes.org](http://www.rainbowhomes.org)

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**disAbility Christmas Celebration** - Saturday, January 8, 2011 Ministry with Persons with disAbilities invites all persons with disAbilities from the diocese and their families to attend this celebration. Christmas Celebration will be held at the Diocesan Center, Madonna Hall at 228 North Walnut Street from 2:00-5:00pm. Reservations are required for this event. Please call Joann at 517-342-2497 or e-mail: [jdavis@dioceseoflansing.org](mailto:jdavis@dioceseoflansing.org) before January 3, 2011.

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## **NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING**

### **Introduction to Natural Family Planning Classes**

The Introduction to Natural Family Planning classes will be offered at the following locations, (there is a \$ 10.00 fee to attend the class):

Thursday, November 18, 2010, starting at 7:00 pm, at St. James Parish, in Mason

Thursday, November 18, 2010, starting at 7:00 pm, at St. Mary Star of the Sea, in Jackson

Tuesday, November 23, 2010, starting at 7:30 pm, at St. Joseph Parish, in Howell

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### **NFP Classes Offered in the Diocese of Lansing**

In the Diocese of Lansing, several methods of Natural Family Planning are taught, pre-registration is required for the following classes:

Billings Ovulation Method: Saturday, November 13, 2010, at St. Anthony Parish, Hillsdale MI  
Please call Maria, 517- 523-3526, or visit the diocesan NFP web page  
at: <http://www.dioceseoflansing.org/nfp/ovulationmethodclasses.html>

Sympto-Thermal Method: taught by Couple to Couple League (CCL). To find classes in Michigan, visit [www.ccli.org](http://www.ccli.org) and click on "Search / Register for Classes"

Creighton Model Fertility Care System: Call Hope Fertility Care Center of Mid-Michigan, Amanda Venema, 517- 242-3710 or e-mail: [amanda.venema@gmail.com](mailto:amanda.venema@gmail.com)

Family of Americas Ovulation Method: Call the NFP Office, 517-342-2587.

**DVD's:** Introduction to Natural Family Planning ~ DVD has medical support and testimonies from NFP users. We have in both English and in Spanish. Cost is \$5.00, contact NFP office 517-342-2587 or e-mail: [nfp@dioceseoflansing.org](mailto:nfp@dioceseoflansing.org)

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## **RESTORATIVE JUSTICE**

The Office of Restorative Justice is the office for the Prison Ministry for each of the State prison

facilities and the one Federal prison located within the Diocese of Lansing. Opportunities for ministry include visiting prisoners and taking news to them, working as a mentor to persons released from prison, writing monthly to incarcerated persons as a Pen-Pal and many other ministries.

Normally, prison ministry volunteers will spend a few hours a week in their ministry. There is never a time when anyone does anything by themselves, always in groups of at least two people.

We are still collecting yarn for the Huron Valley's Women Correctional. The only colors that are not allowed in the prison are grey and black.

Person desiring information about this ministry are encouraged to contact Joe Dionise, Office of Restorative Justice at 517-342-2495, or via e-mail to: [jdioise@dioceseoflansing.org](mailto:jdioise@dioceseoflansing.org)

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### **DEAF/HH Ministry**

**Deaf Mass Schedule** The list of interpreted and/or ASL signed Masses for the 2010/2011 year is now available on the Diocese of Lansing website. To find the listing go to [http://www.dioceseoflansing.org/deafhh/asl\\_int\\_liturgies.html](http://www.dioceseoflansing.org/deafhh/asl_int_liturgies.html) . If your parish offers interpreted Mass for the Deaf Community and is not listed on this website, please contact: [rsmith@dioceseoflansing.org](mailto:rsmith@dioceseoflansing.org).

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### **Christmas Events**

The Diocesan Deaf Community Christmas Party will be at St. John Parish in Fenton on December 5, 2010. Mass will be in the Chapel at 11:00am, followed by dinner in St. John Activity Center.

Christmas Eve signed Mass with Fr. Ken McKenna in St. Mary Cathedral Crypt at 4:00pm, followed by our traditional Christmas Eve Dinner. Christmas Day Mass at St. John Chapel, Fenton, with Fr. Ken McKenna, 10:00am. Contact: Rose Smith at 517-342-2532 or VP 866-552-0427.

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### **FAMILY LIFE MINISTRY**

(Go to <http://foryourmarriage.org> to follow this series, and obtain other resources to strengthen your marriage.)

## **For Every Marriage - Virtue of the Month**

*Introduction to the "Marital Virtue of the Month" Series by Archbishop Joseph Kurtz*

Over the past several years, as chairman of the Bishops' Committee on Marriage and Family Life, I've had the privilege of listening to many couples reflect on their marriage. Repeatedly, I've been struck by how many speak of their sense of helping each other to heaven. They instinctively grasp St. Paul's call to "a still more excellent way" in which their married love, which is God's power alive within them, leads them to heaven.

As Christians, we understand this call to growth as a call to a holy, or virtuous, marriage. "Virtue" may sound like an old-fashioned word, but it lies at the heart of spirituality. A virtue is a stable part of one's character that allows a person to perform good acts and to give his or her best (Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 1803).

Couples, like individuals, acquire virtues through the repetition of particular practices and behaviors. They make the virtue their own by freely choosing to act in certain ways, every day. The question posed in our radio and TV spots, "What have you done for your marriage today?" is really an invitation to grow in virtue through a gentle word, a generous deed or an act of self-sacrifice.

No one brings all the necessary virtues into a marriage, and the virtues that spouses do bring need to be developed. So marriage is a "school for virtue," in which spouses learn such virtues as forgiveness, kindness, and humility. It's the work of a lifetime.

A holy marriage, one that is a communion of persons and a sign of God's love, is made up of many virtues. In this series, we'll look at several virtues that characterize a holy and happy marriage. Each article will consider how the virtue can be practiced in marriage and offer one or two questions for reflection. I hope that couples will be able to set aside time each month to read and prayerfully discuss these articles.

Love, of course, is the more excellent way that includes all the virtues. As a couple grows in virtue they also grow in love. Hand in hand they walk the journey to holiness. I pray that you may persevere in this journey, knowing the love of God, the encouragement of the Church, and the support of the many couples who are walking this journey with you.

## **MULTICULTURAL EVANGELIZATION**

**Cultural Diversity in the Church:** For more information on Cultural Diversity in the Church, go to:

<http://www.usccb.org/scdc/>

**National Black Catholic Congress:** The goal of the National Black Catholic Congress is to establish an agenda for the evangelization of African Americans; and to improve the spiritual, mental and physical conditions of African American Catholics. Stay in touch with matters relating to the Black Catholic Community by visiting: <http://www.nbccongress.org>

**Hispanic Heritage Month:** In celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, Sept. 15-Oct. 15, the Michigan Commission on Spanish Speaking Affairs encourages all individuals and organizations to join in the festivities by sponsoring a cultural, educational, or social event within your city, town, university, college and/or school. An electronic form is also available on their website at [www.michigan.gov/cossa](http://www.michigan.gov/cossa) . Should you need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact them at: 517-373-8339 or by e-mailing: [cosso@michigan.gov](mailto:cosso@michigan.gov)

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**“Encuentro and Beyond”:** On November 20 there will be a state wide event named **“Encuentro and Beyond”**. Following the 2006 Encuentro process, a report listed several goals and initiatives. Establishing a network of collaboration for the benefit of our Hispanic youth and young adults was indicated as a top priority. For this reason the youth, young adult, and Hispanic ministry leaders of the state of Michigan are calling together leadership in the ministry of *“pastoral juvenile”*. We will gather together as community, in order to reflect on the results of the Encuentro report, build leadership networks and begin taking steps together implementing the initiatives spelled out in the Encuentro report.

The presentation and dialogue that will take place in Grand Rapids on November 20 will grow in significance to the degree that we draw together all those in leadership in our diocesan and parish ministries, particularly those serving Hispanic youth and young adults. The Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry and the Office of Multicultural Evangelization will commit the funds for the registration fees. We ask that the parishes cover the cost of transportation to this event. For more information contact either Pat Rinker at [prinker@dioceseoflansing.org](mailto:prinker@dioceseoflansing.org) or Ron Landfair at [rlandfair@dioceseoflansing.org](mailto:rlandfair@dioceseoflansing.org)

**Vietnamese Catholics:** For more information on Vietnamese Catholics go to:  
<http://cwings.org/vietcatholic.net>

## **LIFE JUSTICE**

“Not all moral issues have the same moral weight as abortion and euthanasia...There may be a legitimate diversity of opinion even among Catholics about waging war and applying the death penalty, but not however with regard to abortion and euthanasia.”

Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, Prefect for the Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith, Letter to Cardinal McCarrick 2004

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## **March for Life 2011**

The March for Life and Rally will take place at noon on the Mall in Washington on Monday, January 24, 2011. We are confirming plans by March for Life organizers to invite bishops to greet rally participants on the Mall. In the meantime, check <http://www.marchforlife.org> for more information on the March for Life and to register your buses.

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## **USCCB Pro-Life Committee Chairman Issues Statement for Respect Life Month**

WASHINGTON—In a statement to mark Respect Life Month, October 2010, Cardinal Daniel DiNardo of Galveston-Houston addressed direct threats to human life and called Catholics to “constantly witness to the inestimable worth and dignity of each human life through a loving concern for the good of others.” He also encouraged participation in the worldwide “Vigil for All Nascent Human Life” called for by Pope Benedict XVI at the start of Advent. Cardinal DiNardo chairs the Committee on Pro-Life Activities of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).

In his statement, Cardinal DiNardo noted populations particularly at risk: millions of unborn children in the womb, embryonic human beings destroyed “in the name of science,” and seriously ill patients “under threat from a renewed campaign for legalizing physician-assisted suicide.”

“The loss of even one child, and the pain experienced by the child’s mother and father in the aftermath of abortion, should impel us to redouble our efforts to end legal abortion,” Cardinal DiNardo said. He stressed the need “to ensure that every pregnant woman has whatever help she needs to turn away from this heartbreaking choice.” He highlighted Project Rachel, the

Church's healing ministry to women and men hurting after abortion, and called the ministry "a reflection of God's love and mercy and His constant offer of forgiveness and healing."

Cardinal DiNardo also noted the "urgent task" of "ensuring that health care reform ... is not misused to promote abortion or to trample on the rights of conscience."

"If we allow the dignity of every human life to guide the decisions we make as voters and public policy advocates, we can surely succeed in creating a more just and humane society," Cardinal DiNardo said.

Cardinal DiNardo cited Pope Benedict's "unprecedented request" for Catholics throughout the world to observe a "Vigil for All Nascent Human Life" on Saturday, November 27.

"I heartily encourage all Catholics, whether at home or traveling over the Thanksgiving holidays, to take part in this special prayer, whose purpose according to the Holy See," he said, "is to 'thank the Lord for his total self-giving to the world and for his Incarnation which gave every human life its real worth and dignity,' and to 'invoke the Lord's protection over every human being called into existence'."

Begun in 1972, the Respect Life Program stresses the value and dignity of human life. It is observed in the 195 Catholic dioceses in the United States. This year's theme is "The Measure of Love is to Love Without Measure." The full statement follows and may be found online at [www.usccb.org/prolife/programs/rlp/10dinardo-stmt.pdf](http://www.usccb.org/prolife/programs/rlp/10dinardo-stmt.pdf)

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