

All Souls/Catholic Cemetery Sunday is an opportunity to acquaint the Catholic faithful or reacquaint heritage Catholics, the non-practicing faithful, and ourselves about the importance and significance of the communion of the saints on our lives and the witness of Catholic cemeteries. All Souls masses will galvanize the parish to pray and remember in a communal way, fellow parishioners who have died. Make this year's All Souls Day a personal moment. Join thousands of Catholics by visiting the Catholic cemetery where families and friends are buried. Take the time to visit and offer a prayer. Personal moments such as these with those who influenced our lives bring us closer even after years of separation.

In Catholic cemeteries, praying for our dead is a part of who we are. In Catholic cemeteries ...

We remember... we celebrate...we believe.

October, 2008
Inside Voices Alive

Page 2 - 3
[Catholic Charities](#)

Page 4
[Safe Environment](#)

Page 5
[Pastoral Planning/Formation](#)

Page 6 - 7
[Education & Catechesis](#)

Page 8
[Calendar](#)



REMEMBER ... ALL SOULS DAY

*"...it is pious tradition during these days for the faithful
to go visit the graves of their dead ones and to pray for them."*

Servant of God, Pope John II

Every six years or so, All Souls Day falls on the first Sunday of November, designated Catholic Cemetery Sunday by the Catholic Cemetery Conference.

Catholic Cemetery Sunday is a day of "awareness" to the special calling of Catholic cemeteries in the heritage and tradition of the church. It is not a day to sell or make us buy a product or a service. Catholic Cemetery Sunday is meant to raise awareness praying for the dead is a holy and pious thing, for those who have chosen sacred ground as their final resting place.

All Souls Day reminds us of the special intimacy that only prayer, with and for our departed loved ones, can bring. On All Souls Day we realize not everyone gets a "Go straight to heaven" card. Do not pass purgatory. Do not go into a period of purification". Catholic cemeteries remind us that one day we too will join their ranks, and that we too will want someone to remember and pray for us. It is part of what we do as Catholics.

This year the two themes are joined. The day confirms the comfort and history of Catholic cemeteries, both spiritually and temporally. "To bury the dead" is a corporal works of mercy – a work that has been part of the Church's mission since her beginnings. In the Book of Maccabees, the prophet proclaims that it is a holy and pious thought to pray for the dead.

In a collection of sermons untitled "The Rainbow People of God", South African Bishop Desmond Tutu, explains the African concept of Ubuntu. Ubuntu means "that you are bound to others in the bundle of life, for a person is only a person through other persons." That which defines us as human beings is other people, both living and dead.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES



CATHOLIC DEAF/HH MINISTRY

The National Catholic Office for the Deaf annual pastoral week will be held in San Francisco January 16 – 21, 2009. This annual conference offers opportunities to network with pastoral workers as well as learn how to minister to the Deaf community. For further information, please contact Rose Smith at 517-342-2532 or rsmith@dioceseoflansing.org.

BRILLE EMBOSSE

Ministry with Persons with disAbilities is offering our services to persons who are blind and read Braille in your parish. What we would need from you is your information sent by e-mail in a word document to our office, we can then format your document into Braille. This opens up many new possibilities for persons who are blind and read braille to be able to more fully participate in their parish. Parishes that have used our service to date are: St. Mary Cathedral, St. Joseph Shrine, St. Casimir, Resurrection and St. John Student Parish for hymns, newsletters, prayers and bulletins. These ideas are just a few ways to assist persons who are blind and, in turn, these parishioners will be more aware of ways to assist their parish. For more information, call Joann at 517-342-2497 or e-mail jdavis@dioceseoflansing.org.

DEAF MASS SCHEDULE

The 2008-09 schedule of ASL signed or interpreted weekend liturgies throughout the Lansing Diocese can be found on our website at www.dioceseoflansing.org under Catholic Deaf/HH Ministry.

“RENDER UNTO CAESAR” BOOK AVAILABLE

Render Unto Caesar by Archbishop Chaput of Denver is an intelligent, relevant and timely look at the responsibilities of Catholics in the public square. The bishop clearly lays out the theological, historical, sociological and political factors that have led to the present hostilities in our country and the shallowness of our political conversation. This would be an outstanding book for any book group discussion and is accessible for teens as well as adults. The Life Justice Office is offering the book for \$13.00. To obtain a copy, please contact Colleen at candrews@dioceseoflansing.org or call 517-342-2560 for more information.

THE REALITIES OF SAME-SEX ATTRACTION

This seminar, which will focus on the psychological and spiritual factors of same-sex attraction, will be presented on Friday, October 24 (clergy only) and Saturday, October 25 (everyone welcome) at St. Joseph Parish, 440 East Washington, Howell from 10 am – 3 pm. Lunch is included and the cost is FREE. The presenters are Dr. Richard Fitzgibbons, Director of Comprehensive Counseling Services, Pennsylvania and Rev. Paul Check from the Diocese of Bridgeport, Connecticut. Social work CEUs available and Catechetical Enrichment Credits. Teens are welcome. RSVP to Linda at lkolanowski@dioceseoflansing.org or call 517-342-2465.

RESOURCE BOOK AVAILABLE

Stand Up Girl—Take Charge of Your Unexpected Pregnancy gives concise, thoughtful direction to the young woman facing a surprise pregnancy. Non-judgmental, sympathetic and factual, this book lays out all the options to consider and describes abortion and its effects. A \$12.95 value available from the Life Justice Office for only \$5.00! To obtain a copy, call Linda at 517-342-2465 or email: lkolanowski@dioceseoflansing.org.

CCMI MEETINGS

Christians Concerned about Mental Illness (CCMI) monthly meetings are held the fourth Tuesday of each month from 12:00 Noon to 1:00 pm in the Diocesan Center at 228 N. Walnut Street, Lansing. The next CCMI meeting will be held on October 28. No reservations required. Meetings are a chance for prayer and fellowship. Call Joann at 517-342-2497 or email: jdavis@dioceseoflansing.org for more information.

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

I received a call from a wonderful lady who has been involved in prison ministry for over twenty years in our diocese. She wanted to tell me about a program that she had been a part of at the Scott Correctional Facility for Women in the Archdiocese of Detroit because of the benefit for the women prisoners, the volunteers and others. The program involves individual parishes collecting and sorting yarn to give to the inmates. The inmates are then allowed to form groups to knit lap robes, sweaters and mittens for the needy. These groups are formed based on “good behavior” and are seen as “perks” for the women inmates. The knitted items are then distributed to people who need them. I would encourage parish leaders to use this as a form of outreach to the women who are incarcerated. If there is interest in beginning this program in your parish, please contact this office at 517-342-2495.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING

There is a charge of \$10.00 per couple for all Intro to NFP classes which must be paid prior to attending class. Checks should be made out and mailed to: Diocese of Lansing, 300 W. Ottawa Street, Lansing, MI 48933.

Introduction to NFP Classes - Thursday, October 16, 7 - 9 pm, Queen of the Miraculous Medal, Jackson;

Saturday, October 25, 10 am – 12 Noon, St. Mary Church, Charlotte

Sunday, November 16, 2 – 4 pm, St. Mary Star of the Sea,, Jackson

Tuesday, November 25, at 7:30 pm, St. Joseph Church, Howell

No classes are scheduled in December.

Pre-registration is required for all participants. Call 517-342-2587 or nfp@dioceseoflansing.org.

NFP Classes Offered in the Diocese of Lansing. Pre-registration is required for the following classes:

Billings Ovulation Method: Saturday, November 8, 2008, 10:00 am, St. Anthony Parish, Hillsdale. Call Maria at 517-523-3526 to register.

Sympto-Thermal Method: Holy Trinity Church, Fowler, starting December 13, 2008 with follow-up classes on January 10, 2009 and February 7, 2009. Call Tony & Stephanie Felpausch at (989) 593-2798 to register. St. Joseph Church, Pewamo, starting March 21, 2009 with follow-up class on April 18, 2009 and May 16, 2009, Call Tony & Stephanie at (989) 593-2798.

Creighton Model Fertility Care System: Call Amanda Venema at (517) 242-3710 or e-mail: venemafamily@cablespeed.com

Family of Americas Ovulation Method: Call the Natural Family Planning Office at (517) 342-2587 for class information.

We have the new Introduction to Natural Family Planning DVD available both in English and in Spanish. Cost is \$5.00 each. We will send a complimentary copy to any parish that has not received one for their library. Just call the NFP office: (517) 342-2587 or email us at nfp@dioceseoflansing.org .

RELIGIOUS PROGRAMS FOR DEAF STUDENTS/ADULTS

If you have deaf or hard of hearing members in your parish and need information about accommodations for them, please contact Catholic Deaf/HH Ministry at 517-342-2532 or rsmith@dioceseoflansing.org.

BLACK CATHOLIC SUNDAY

Black Catholics throughout the diocese are invited to celebrate “Black Catholic Sunday/Feast of Christ the King” with Bishop Boyea on Sunday, November 23, 9:45am at Christ the King, Flint. Brunch and the Father Norman Dukette Awards will follow. The event is free for all attending. For more information call 517-342-2496.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES - JACKSON COUNTY

At Catholic Charities of Jackson County, our true mission is the mission of the Church - the salvation of souls. We do not consider ourselves just another human service organization. With that being said, how then do we differentiate ourselves?

First of all, we must have an understanding of the Church’s teaching on the dignity of the human person. This allows us to offer people peace of soul, not just peace of mind. In the myriad of programs we offer, our goal is to encounter Jesus in those we serve and to let those we serve encounter Jesus through us. If at some level the soul is stirred, and knows that not only the body and mind have been assisted, but that Hope has been rekindled – a Hope that only an encounter with Jesus can bring about has been passed on, then we have truly given them everything.

By offering post-abortion grief counseling and hosting the Outreach Ministries of the Diocese of Lansing, which include Separated and Divorced, Bishop’s Council on Alcohol and Other Drugs, BeFriender and Project Rachel, and other fine programs like Respite Care, Retired Senior Volunteer Program, Coaching, Individual/ Group counseling, and our Personal Needs & Linen Closet, we have the opportunity to live out Pope Benedict XVI’s first two encyclicals. We need to convey to our clients that God is Love and that they are Saved in Hope. The Catholic in Charities is a constant reminder of who we are and what we are about – the salvation of souls.

- Volunteers whose duties include four or more hours per month contact with minors

The Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People was implemented in the Diocese of Lansing in August, 2003. This is the first time we have asked you to provide us information on existing employees and volunteers who are active and completed a background check in a previous year. The re-check will be done utilizing the Michigan State Police Internet Criminal History Access Tool (ICHAT). There is no cost. The information needed is: First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name, Date of Birth, Ethnicity (i.e., African American; Asian or Pacific Islander; Caucasian; American Indian, Alaskan Native or Other).

If you are certain that there is a Diocese of Lansing Consent form on file in the Safe Environment Office for the individual, all that is needed is a list of employees/volunteers with the above information. If you are uncertain, complete the consent form. Send lists and consent forms via email to: sellis@dioceseoflansing.org or fax to 517-342-2505. The deadline is extended to November 15, 2008.

The re-check process does not negate background checks for new employees/volunteers. Diocesan policy is still in effect [see page 10 of Employee Handbook]. The re-check is an "extra" we are doing to ensure that children and youth continue to be protected from risk of harm. Call: Sally Ellis at 517-342-2551.

NB: PURSUANT TO THE REVISED SCHOOL CODE LAW, THE MICHIGAN STATE POLICE RUN A BACKGROUND CHECK ON FULL AND PART-TIME SCHOOL EMPLOYEES YEARLY. THEREFORE, SCHOOL EMPLOYEES ARE EXEMPT FROM THIS PROCEDURE.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT

FROM THE SAFE ENVIRONMENT OFFICE. . .

VIRTUS ONLINE TRAINING NOW AVAILABLE: Volunteers who have contact with minors are required to attend one Protecting God's Children Session for Adults. The recent compliance audit figures indicated that there were 400+ volunteers who did not complete safe environment training by the end of the audit period (June 30).

Aware that occasionally it is impossible for a volunteer to attend a live Protecting God's Children session, VIRTUS now has online training available.

The online training is for volunteers who are unable to attend a live Protecting God's Children session. The volunteer will need to register at www.virtus.org for one of the live sessions before he or she can be assigned the online training course. There is a two-week deadline from the date of assignment to complete the online course. The volunteer will need a valid email address and will receive an email from VIRTUS as soon as the online course is assigned that reads:

“*** This is an automated email message. Please do not reply. ***

_____ (volunteer's name):

Your VIRTUS Online administrator has assigned you to do online training. Please visit www.virtus.org and login to access this training.

Your user id is: _____

If you do not remember your password, click the "FORGOT PASSWORD" link at www.virtus.org.

Once you have logged in, click on the MY TRAINING tab and choose the ONLINE TRAINING link on the left-hand side of the page.

If you have any questions, please contact your system administrator.

Your system administrator is: Sally Ellis

sellis@dioceseoflansing.org

517-342-2551

If you have volunteers who are unable to attend a live Protecting God's Children session, please send me their names, ask them to register at www.virtus.org and make sure they include a valid email address during the registration process. The online training course will be assigned once these two steps are completed.

Volunteers are strongly urged to attend a live Protecting God's Children Session. Online training should be an option in the rare circumstance that a volunteer absolutely is unable to attend a live session. The online training is for volunteers; employees are required to attend a live session.

CLARIFICATION: The auditors suggested that we background check volunteers and employees again who went through this process previously. People are asking why? The answer is because our focus is to create safe environments for children and youth. In our endeavor to protect children and youth from risk of harm, it is prudent to perform ongoing background checks on:

- Full and part-time employees

Maher breaks open these two simple words on the project, in songs that are both corporate and reflective; driving and soft; each one telling the story from a different perspective. Empty & Beautiful was co-produced by Maher and Jeff Thomas, except for, "As It Is In Heaven," which was produced by Ed Cash (Chris Tomlin, Bebo Norman, Bethany Dillon).

He will be performing at Holy Redeemer, Burton on November 24 at 7:00 P.M. All youth and young adults are welcome to attend. Check out this flier and be there.

7.2 Engage more adults in ministry with youth and young adults:

Jamboree Workshop: will be offered for adults on youth overnight trips reviewing safety issues and planning in light of the Gospel. This will be a two part workshop presented by Pat Rinker. Adults who are registered with the youth are welcomed to attend this workshop.

The National Conference on Catholic Youth Ministry: (NCCYM) is the largest adult conference for Catholic youth ministers in the country. Join thousands of your colleagues—youth and campus ministers, religious education leaders, clergy, religious performers, artists and volunteers—for four days of inspiring keynotes, challenging workshops, dynamic prayer and worship, helpful networking, extensive resources, and good-hearted entertainment. The dates are December 4-7 in Cleveland, OH. To register all you have to do is click the following link. <http://nccym.nfcym.org/>

EDUCATION AND CATECHESIS

CAFÉ



Goal 3.1: Create comprehensive continuing adult education and formation opportunities.

Developing channels of publicity/marketing is crucial to the success of parish adult faith formation efforts. One approach is to use technology.

Have people sign in when they participate in your adult faith formation events. Ask them to include their emails. Create your own group email list of past participants in adult faith formation to use for publicity for future adult faith formation programs. You can have one master email list for this purpose. You can also have partial lists for those you feel may be interested in particular types of programs such as marriage enrichment, theology of tap, bible study, etc., Let your parish know through your parish bulletin and parish website that you have such group email lists and invite people to be on them.

Regularly use your group e-mail list(s) to keep people informed about upcoming adult faith formation events. You can include attachments such as publicity flyers and registration brochures. You can also include links such as "Continuing Adult Faith Formation Opportunities" on the diocesan website, www.dioceseoflansing.org. Email can be an effective part of your multiple approaches to publicity/marketing of your adult faith formation programs. Goal 7.1 Engage youth, college students, and young adults through ministry and creative programming:

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT ACTIVITIES:

Jamboree, November 2 at the Lansing Center for high school. Our theme is: Fight the Good Fight: Unleash the Faith Hero Within. Keynote speaker is Bob Perron from Stouge for Christ ministries. Bob has been to our diocese twice before. His stories, humor and message of faith will inspire our youth and those adults who attend with them. Bishop Boyea will celebrate Mass with us. Registration material has been mailed. For more copies please see our website. <http://www.dioceseoflansing.org/youthministry/index.html>

Refresh Retreat for Young Adult Singles: Young adult singles in your 20's and 30's, don't miss the opportunity to get away and look at your life direction in light of your faith. Draw closer to God and His call to you with other young adults in the diocese. For information go to the diocesan website. <http://www.dioceseoflansing.org/youngadult/index.html>

Matt Maher to Perform at Holy Redeemer, Burton

Matt Maher is one of the newest and most sought after Catholic artists in the country. For singer/songwriter/worship leader Matt Maher, there is nothing more special about his call than anyone else's, and like those before him, he is trying to live that same call, as his 12-track Essential Records debut album's title says, to be made Empty & Beautiful.

EDUCATION AND CATECHESIS

ALL PARISH STAFF – MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR A 25-HOUR RETREAT

Goal 4: Nurture ministers and leaders in the life of the Spirit and the vision of the Church to use their gifts to serve the needs of all.

Plan now to attend the 2009 Michigan Winter Gathering of Parish and Diocesan Catechetical Leaders, Thursday, January 8, 12:00 noon to Friday, January 9, 1:00 p.m. at Bethany House in DeWitt. Details and registration materials will appear in November.

RCIA DIRECTORS AND TEAMS

Goal 4: Nurture ministers and leaders in the life of the Spirit and the vision of the Church to use their gifts to serve the needs of all.

There are two opportunities to attend the same inservice. On Tuesday, October 21, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. at St. Mary, Mt. Morris, and Thursday, October 23, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. at St. Mary, Star of the Sea, Jackson, the following inservice will be held. Please call Pete Ries at 517-342-2486, pries@dioceseoflansing.org if you plan to send anyone so that there can be a sufficient number of handouts for the participants. The inservice description follows:

RCIA 101, an overview of the four stages and each of the rites. Everything you wanted to know about the RCIA in language you can understand. Unique vocabulary will be defined, the richness of the rites will be explained, and practical issues faced by those implementing the RCIA in parishes will be considered. Shows how Christian Initiation is a process of faith formation which responds to the various contexts people come from while presenting the richness of our Catholic faith. This two hour inservice is vital for new or nearly new RCIA Directors and is a valuable overview for team members.

2006-2007 ANNUAL DATA GATHERING ON FAITH FORMATION FOR ADULTS, TEENS, AND CHILDREN

Goal 3.2: Offer quality religious education programs which engage children, youth, parents and families.

There are 5,499 Catholic students in our parish high school (gr. 9-12) religious education programs and Catholic high schools. Parishes estimate that 7,957 of their high school teens are neither in parish high school faith formation programs nor Catholic schools. That puts 41% of our teens in some form of faith formation; 59% of our teens receiving no faith formation.

There 27,076 Catholic students in our parish grade school (gr. 1-8) religious education programs and Catholic elementary schools. Parishes estimate that 4,760 of their grade school children are neither in parish grade school religious education program nor Catholic elementary schools. That puts 85% of our grade school children in some form of faith formation; 15% of our grade school children (gr. 1-8) receiving no faith formation.

LOOKING AHEAD – MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Goal 4: Nurture ministers and leaders in the life of the Spirit and the vision of the Church to use their gifts to serve the needs of all.

The 2009 Annual Conference of the National Conference for Catechetical Leadership is coming to the Archdiocese of Detroit April 27-30 at the Dearborn Michigan Hyatt. The theme is “Belong, Engage, Believe”, “Perteneceer, Dedicacion, Creer”. Come to celebrate the 10th anniversary of “Our Hearts Were Burning Within Us”. Network with other parish and diocesan catechetical leaders. Experience dynamic keynote presentations, round tables, poster postings, hot topics, and numerous theological updates. To register and for additional information contact www.nccl.org.

DIRECTORS OF EVANGELIZATION, EVANGELIZATION TEAMS, WELCOME HOME PARISH CONTACTS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Goal 2: Commit to our mission of evangelization by sharing the joy and promise of the gospel with inactive and alienated Catholics and the unchurched.

Regional gatherings of parish evangelization leaders will be held Tuesday, November 11 and repeated Wednesday, November 19, both 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Each begins with a light supper. More details to follow.



300 West Ottawa, Lansing, MI 48933

FIRST CLASS
 PRE-SORTED
 US POSTAGE
PAID
 PERMIT #782
 LANSING, MI

**DIOCESAN CALENDAR
 OCTOBER - NOVEMBER, 2008**

October 14-17	FDLC - Milwaukee, WI	October 27	Basic Youth Ministry training, St. John Student Parish, East Lansing, 7:00 - 9:00pm
October 14	We Care Seminar, Madonna Hall, Lansing, 6:30 - 9:30pm	November 1	All Saints Day
October 19	Mission Sunday (Propagation of the Faith)	November 1	We Care Seminar, St. Gerard, Lansing (Parish Center), 9:00am - 12:00pm
October 20	Basic Youth Ministry training, St. John Student Parish, East Lansing, 7:00 - 9:00pm	November 2	All Souls Day - Catholic Cemetery Sunday
October 21	Protecting God's Children Awareness Session, St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Ann Arbor, 6:30pm	November 2	Diocesan High School Jamboree, Lansing Center
October 23	Diocesan Catechetical Day 2009 Planning Committee, 10:00am - 1:00pm	November 6 -8	National RCIA Convocation, Cleveland, Ohio
October 23	Introduction to NFP Class, Most Holy Trinity, Fowler, 7:00 - 9:00pm	November 6	Priestly Life & Ministry Committee, 11:00am - 3:00pm
October 24	Lay Ecclesial Ministers Convocation (TBA), 9:00am - 3:00pm	November 7	Becoming Pastoral Agents of Change St. Mary Magdalen, Brighton, 9:30am - 3:30pm
October 24	Realities of Same-sex Attraction (clergy only), St. Joseph, Howell, 10:00am - 3:00pm	November 8-9	Remarriage Seminar, St. Joseph Retreat Center, Jackson
October 25	Realities of Same-sex Attraction, St. Joseph, Howell, 10:00am - 3:00pm	November 10	We Care Seminar, Madonna Hall, Lansing, 6:30 - 9:30pm
October 25	Introduction to NFP Class, St. Mary, Charlotte, 10:00am - 12:00pm	November 11	CYM Advisory Meeting, 9:00am - 1:00pm
October 26	Priesthood Sunday	November 11	Regional Gathering of Parish Evangelization Leaders, 6:30 - 8:30PM
October 26	World Youth Day	November 12	DRE Orientation, Part II, 10:00am - 2:30pm
October 26-29	CACE Convention, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma	November 12	Diocesan Worship Commission Meeting, 10:30am - 3:00pm
		November 13-15	NCCL Representative Council, Chicago, Illinois

Help us decrease printing and posting expenses!

To receive *VOICES Alive* via e-mail each month, send a request to mdiebold@DioceseofLansing.org