

APRIL 2016



# OFFICE FOR PARISH LIFE

GOOD NEWS NOTES

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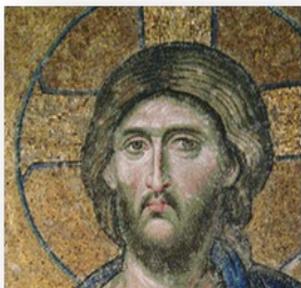
## Understanding Family Systems and Their Influence on Ministry

with Sr. Ann Perrin, cnd, lmft  
Practicing marriage/family therapist  
Adjunct Professor,  
Dept. of Graduate Counseling  
University of Scranton

We bring our families with us everywhere we go ...and so does everyone we interact with in ministry! Grow in your awareness of your own family system and those of the people to whom you minister. Sr. Ann will provide a practical and informative look at family systems, their developmental cycles and relational dynamics. This day will include lecture, self-reflection, practical application and small group sharing. This workshop is a skills workshop for Lay Ministry Certificate candidates AND the public is welcome as well!

Saturday, April 23, 9AM-4PM  
Saint Faustina Kowalska Parish Center  
518 S Hanover Street, Nanticoke  
[Click here to register](#)

Mother's Day  
Adoption Mass  
Sunday, May 8 at  
10:00AM  
Cathedral of St. Peter



## THE SECOND ANNUAL Diocesan Men's Conference

*Jesus Christ: The Face of True Manhood*

Saturday, April 23, 2016, 8:00 AM - 2:30 PM  
King's College Scandlon Gymnasium  
149 N. Main St. Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701

*Eucharistic Adoration, Reconciliation, Mass, Fellowship, and Prayer  
Fee includes light breakfast & box lunch*

Fee: \$35 Student: \$15 Priests/Deacons: Free  
[Click here to Register for the Men's Conference](#)

## Lector Training

The Office for Parish Life will offer a two-part formation session for new (or current) Lectors on May 2 & 9 (Mondays) from 6:30PM-9:00PM in the Diocesan Pastoral Center, 330 Wyoming Ave., Scranton. These sessions will cover the theology, history, and spirituality of the ministry, as well as the particular functions of the lector, and how to properly prepare and carry out this ministry. To register, please fill out the [Lector Training Registration Form](#) or call the Office for Parish Life at 570-207-2213.



## Adult Confirmation

Bishop Bambera will celebrate this sacrament on **Pentecost Sunday, May 15, 2016 at 10:00AM at the Cathedral of St. Peter** for baptized adult Catholics seeking to complete their Christian Initiation. Please submit all necessary forms by April 29, 2016 (available at [Christian Initiation Resources](#))

- Application
- Copy of Baptismal Certificate
- Sponsor Eligibility Form

If you have any questions, please contact Nancy at 570-207-2213.

## RCIA Enrichment Sessions

The Office for Parish Life will be offering two Enrichment Sessions led by Sr. Sandra De Masi, SSJ for RCIA teams as well as Sacramental and Catechetical leaders.

**"Kidz, Christ and the Catechumenate"**  
**Tuesday, May 17th at 6:30PM at St. Eulalia Parish**  
 (214 Blue Shutters Road, Roaring Brook Township)

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults provides the norm for liturgical as well as catechetical practice for the Christian initiation of children of catechetical age. This RCIA adapted for unbaptized children of catechetical age continues to be a challenge for catechetical leaders, liturgists and pastors. Sister Sandy will explore these uncharted waters.

**"RCIA—How Is It Inspiring Us?"**  
**Wednesday, May 18th at 6:30PM at Our Lady of Fatima Parish**  
 (134 S. Washington Street, Wilkes-Barre)

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults has provided the Church with a great source of renewal by inspiring greater outreach and an evangelizing spirit. In this interactive and lively workshop, Sister Sandy will address: How the RCIA has affected the area of catechesis; How the catechumenal model is reflected in our parish sacramental programs; How we can continue to develop and foster the RCIA within our parish setting.

*Sister Sandra De Masi, SSJ is a Sister of Saint Joseph of Chestnut Hill, PA and has a BS in Education from Chestnut Hill College, an MA in Liturgical Studies from the University of Notre Dame and a D.Min from Catholic University. Sister Sandra served for 13 years as the Director of the Office of Divine Worship in the Archdiocese of Newark and some 20 years as a member of the Board of Directors of the Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions and is a consultant for RCL Benziger.*

To register for either or both of these sessions, please complete the [RCIA Enrichment Form](#) or contact the Office for Parish Life at 570-207-2213.

## Thinking about Offering a Parish Retreat?

Bernadette Rudolph, Director for Family and Community Development, will present a day or evening of reflection in your parish or for multiple parishes. Invite all parishioners or offer it to a particular group, like catechists, Eucharistic ministers, men's or women's groups. Current offerings include:

- God's Mercy, Our Response
- Living Your Strengths: Recognizing the Creative Hand of God in Your Life & Parish
- A Spirituality of Hospitality
- Finding God in Your Family

Call to discuss other ideas! 570-207-2213, ext 1104, or [bernadette-rudolph@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:bernadette-rudolph@dioceseofscranton.org)



## Echoes of Faith Evening of Reflection

Echoes of Faith, created by the National Conference for Catechetical Leadership (NCCL) and published by RCL/Benziger, is an online learning experience promoted by the Office for Parish Life for adult formation in the Catholic Faith. The Theology series is used for Basic Catechist Certification for parish religious education teachers and Catholic school teachers. Close to fifty adults in the Diocese of Scranton are currently enrolled and active in the program. One of the necessary components of the Echoes of Faith program is that the learner has the opportunity to share faith and his/her experience with others. Because the study is online and individualized, the participants miss the opportunity to get together for reflection and faith sharing.

On **Wednesday, May 18, 2016 from 7:00 to 8:30PM**, we invite the Echoes of Faith participants to gather for prayer, reflection and fellowship at the Diocesan Pastoral Center, 330 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton. For more information about the Echoes of Faith program or about the Evening of Reflection, please contact Mary Anne Malone, 570-207-2213, ext. 1100, or [mary-anne-malone@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:mary-anne-malone@dioceseofscranton.org).

## ARISE Together in Christ

In October 2015, ten parishes began **ARISE Together in Christ**, a three-year process from RENEW International, which aims to spiritually transform parishes through small group faith-sharing, provide resources for families with children, and contribute to Christian social action. During a series of six-week long 'seasons,' these small faith-sharing groups—consisting of eight to twelve people—meet weekly to read and reflect on Sacred Scripture, to share how the Word of God relates to their daily life, and to encourage each other in active discipleship. Each of the five seasons in the **ARISE** process has a major gospel theme that is broken down into weekly themes. **ARISE** is one way for parishes to grow in holiness together and cultivate a stronger sense of community. Participating parishes have already experienced good fruits coming from their involvement in small group faith-sharing during the first two seasons.



The Office for Parish Life encourages additional parishes to consider beginning **ARISE Together in Christ** in the fall of 2016. Sr. Maureen Colleary, FSP, a representative from RENEW International, will be facilitating an **informational online webinar** for parishes who wish to learn more.

**This webinar is scheduled for Wednesday, May 11<sup>th</sup> from 1:30PM-2:30PM(EST), and again at 7:00PM-8:00PM (EST)**; the content of both webinar sessions are identical, but parish leaders can choose to attend either the afternoon or the evening session. Webinar participants can register by contacting Greg Kremer at 908-242-0447, or by visiting one of the following links:

**ARISE Informational Session (afternoon):** [1:30-2:30 pm](#)

**ARISE Informational Session (evening):** [7:00-8:00 pm](#)



## FOCCUS Facilitator Training

A workshop will be held on **Sunday, May 22 from 12:15PM to 5:30PM at Our Lady of Victory Parish, Tannersville**, to train those wishing to use the FOCCUS premarital inventory with engaged couples. FOCCUS is a great tool for helping couples talk about key issues in married life that both the US Catholic Conference of Bishops and licensed marriage counselors agree are fundamental components. This workshop prepares a person/sponsor couple to go over the results when an engaged couple takes the survey. Priests, deacons, pastoral associates and married sponsor couples are all welcome to attend. Go to [www.foccusinc.com](http://www.foccusinc.com) and click on "Training" to register.

## BISHOP'S YOUTH AWARDS

Click below to see the online list of this year's recipients!



# Parish Pilgrimages to the Cathedral

Parishes from around the diocese are invited to make a pilgrimage to the Cathedral of Saint Peter in observance of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy. There are five more opportunities on Saturdays throughout the year for parishes to make the pilgrimage and pass through the diocesan Holy Door.

**April 30, June 4, August 13, September 24, October 29\***  
**from 9:00AM to 2:00PM**

The pilgrimage day includes Morning Prayer, a presentation on the Jubilee of Mercy, opportunities for personal prayer and reflection, confession, rosary, Mass, lunch and a tour of the cathedral. Cost for the pilgrimage is \$10 per person to cover the cost of lunch, and parishes are encouraged to form a group and arrange their own transportation. To register a group from your parish, please contact Jennifer Andres at 570-207-2213 or by email at Jennifer-Andres@dioceseofscranton.org.

\* October 29 pilgrimage is designed for Hispanic/Latino communities.



## Prayer Service for Christian Unity

On **Ascension Thursday, May 5, at Noon**, the CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES GATHERING OF NORTH-EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA is sponsoring a Prayer Service for Christian Unity at First Presbyterian Church, 97 South Franklin Street, Wilkes-Barre. Prime Bishop Anthony Mikovsky will be the homilist. If any clergy or parishioners can attend, their participation would be most welcome. Anyone who is planning to attend is asked to respond to Jennifer Andres at 570-207-2213 or at [Jennifer-Andres@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:Jennifer-Andres@dioceseofscranton.org) by Tuesday, April 26.

## TEAM MEMBERS

Diocesan Secretary for Parish Life: **Catherine Jantsch Butel**

Director for WORD and Lifelong Faith Formation: **Mary Anne Malone**

Coordinator for Youth, Campus and Young Adult Ministry:

Director for WORSHIP: **David Baloga**

Coordinator for RCIA: **Fr. Bob Simon**

Director for SERVICE and Social Concerns:

Coordinator for Diocesan Missions and

Director for Pontifical Missions: **Deacon Ed Kelly**

Coordinator for Mission Education: **Miriam Heverline**

Coordinator for Pilgrimages – **Fr. Andrew Hvozdovic**

Director for Family and COMMUNITY Development: **Bernadette Rudolph**

Coordinator for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations: **Msgr. Vincent Grimalia**

Coordinator for Parish Cultural Integration:

Coordinator for Lay Ministry Formation: **Kitty MacLean**

Coordinator for Pastoral Council Development: **Ann Marie Cawley**

Events Coordinator, Diocesan Pastoral Center: **Sue Burke**

Catholic Campus Ministers: **Courtney Hull, Caitlin Czeh**

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