



FEBRUARY 2015

OFFICE FOR PARISH LIFE

GOOD NEWS NOTES

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Papal Mass in Philadelphia

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Join the Diocese of Scranton delegation for this historic first visit of Pope Francis to the United States

The Diocese of Scranton invites you to participate in a pilgrimage to Philadelphia for the Mass to be celebrated there by Pope Francis on September 27, 2015.

The Holy Father announced last November that he will come to Philadelphia for the eighth World Meeting of Families being held there. He will celebrate a public Mass with a million or more participants on Sunday, September 27 on the steps of the Philadelphia Museum of Art, in full view of the crowds arrayed from the museum down the Ben Franklin Parkway. No tickets are required for the Mass, and thus no pre-arranged seating is offered.

The Diocese has made arrangements for bus transportation. Parishes may reserve a full bus (56 passengers) and it will depart from your parish site. For smaller parish groups and individuals, the common departure sites will be the four Catholic High Schools in the Diocese. The exact schedule is not yet available from the event planners in Philadelphia, but we anticipate very early departure times. Once we have a clear picture of the number of people who want to participate from each site, we will arrange bus coordinators and send confirmation materials with precise details.

[Click Here for Vatican Synod Survey English or Spanish](#)

Prayer and reflection resources will also be provided to enable pilgrims to share a common experience as the Diocesan Church in preparation for and on the day of this special event.

The round trip bus reservation and pilgrimage package will be \$40 per person. Each participant is responsible for your own meal costs on that day. Reservations for full parish bus or for individuals can be made on the Diocesan website by clicking here: [Papal Mass](#).

Coverage of the pope's visit will also be aired on CTV: Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton.



Pontifical Mass

For Persons with Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities

Sunday, March 1, 2015
10:00am
Cathedral of St. Peter

Come and See

ARISE Together in Christ

from RENEW International

ARISE Together in Christ is a proven small-group approach to bring your parish community together to encounter Christ and deepen faith.

- Fosters a network of small groups that awaken faith and form disciples
- Provides a process for developing parish leaders for the new evangelization
- Supported by training, consultation, and web-based resources

Come to one of the following regional information sessions to learn how this process can serve your parish's pastoral goals!

- **Monday, February 23, 2015**
6:30-8:30pm: Montoursville, Our Lady of Lourdes
- **Tuesday, February 24, 2015**
3-5pm: Pittston, St. John the Evangelist
6:30-8:30pm: Towanda, SS Peter and Paul
- **Wednesday, February 25, 2015**
3-5pm: Tannersville, Our Lady of Victory
6:30-8:30pm: Conyngham, St. John Bosco
- **Thursday, February 26, 2015**
3-5pm: Scranton, Diocesan Pastoral Center

For further information contact Greg Kremer at 908-242-0447 or gregk@renewintl.org



Scripture-based faith-sharing resources for all ages!



www.renewintl.org



Grief Support Ministry Training

If your parish is interested in beginning grief support ministry or training additional ministers, consider:

Sr. Jane Connolly, IHM, pastoral associate, Our Lady of Mt Carmel, Carbondale, is willing to provide a training workshop at your parish or in your region.

Please call Bernadette Rudolph at 570-207-2213, ext 1104 to make arrangements.

Extraordinary Minister of Communion Training

February 28th and March 7th (Saturdays)
9:00AM-12:30PM

St. Faustina Kowalska Parish
520 South Hanover Street, Nanticoke

Please call the Office for Parish Life at 570-207-2213 to register. Please note that it is necessary for candidates to attend both sessions.

Communication Skills for Ministry Series – (Each Workshop \$30; Call 570-207-2213)

One on One: March 7, 9am-4pm

Diocesan Pastoral Center, 330 Wyoming Ave, Scranton

Listening Skills - Sr. Jane O'Donnell, RSM, Mercy Consultation Center, will teach practical skills for being fully present to those to whom we minister.

Conflict Resolution & Mediation – Dr. John Lemoncelli, retired professor and counselor, will explore ways for pastoral ministers to assist families, parishioners and themselves in solving conflicts constructively

In Front of a Group: April 25, 9am-4pm

Our Lady of Fatima Parish, Wilkes-Barre

Public Speaking/Presentation Skills - Dr. Maria Poggi-Johnson, University of Scranton, Theology Department will introduce basic public speaking techniques and practice.

Designing and Leading Prayer - Sr. Madonna Figuera, SSCM, Pastoral Associate, St. André Bessette Parish, Wilkes-Barre will provide guidelines for planning and leading community prayer experiences.

Within a Group: September 12, 9am-4pm

St. Ignatius Parish, Kingston

Group Dynamics & Personality Types - Dr. LeeAnn Eschbach, Ph.D., LPC, & Dr. Julie Cerrito, University of Scranton,

Counseling and Human Services Dept will explore communication within groups as it is enhanced by knowledge of personality styles.

Facilitation Skills - Bernadette Rudolph, Office for Parish Life, will provide practical ways to make group discussion happen smoothly.

Consensus & Collaboration, Appreciative Inquiry, Pastoral Planning Process - Catherine Butel, Office for Parish Life, will explore these key elements of parish group work.

As a Parish Leader: November 7, 9am-4pm

St. Barbara Parish, Exeter

Working with Paid Staff, Ministerial Relationships - Fr. Mike Quinnan, Pastor of Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, Brodheadsville will discuss best practices for establishing and nurturing effective staff relationships in a ministerial context.

Working with Volunteers - Marie Caffrey, Director of Volunteers, St. Vincent Parish, Milford, will talk about how to nurture and get the best from parish volunteers.

Liability & Risk Management - Kathy Bolinski, Safe Environment Coordinator, Diocese of Scranton will present policies and guidelines for all parish leaders to ensure a safe environment and reduce risk.

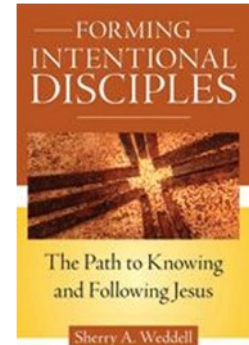
How to Become a Parish of Intentional Disciples

with Katherine Coolidge of the Catherine of Siena Institute

Saturday, March 21, 2015

8:30AM-4:30PM

Diocesan Pastoral Center
330 Wyoming Ave. Scranton



Presenter: Katherine Coolidge is the Called & Gifted Coordinator for Catherine of Siena Institute. She brings experience as a pastoral leader in RCIA, youth ministry, adult faith formation, lay ministry formation, evangelization, and, mostly recently, pastoral associate in a southern California parish. Her passion is helping parish leadership create a parish climate in which disciples are called, formed, equipped and sent in the service of Christ's mission in the world. She is a recognized master catechist in California and earned a Masters in Pastoral Studies from St. Joseph College of Maine. She contributed to the new book, *Becoming a Parish of Intentional Disciples*, as well as weekly to the blog, *Love Is Calling Ministries*. Katherine is married to Michael for thirty-five years; together they have four young adult children and four grandchildren.



The Catherine of Siena Institute, founded by Sherry Weddell, author of *Forming Intentional Disciples*, is an affiliated ministry of the Western Dominican Province dedicated to equipping parishes for the evangelization and formation of lay Catholics for the sake of their mission in the world.

In *The Joy of the Gospel*, Pope Francis challenges us to practice the “art of spiritual accompaniment,” to accompany those seeking God, as well as become missionary disciples who accompany missionary disciples.

Therefore, this workshop will explore:

- The changing face of the people we are called to accompany –You can't assume the same things that have brought people back/into the Church will still work!
- The three concurrent journeys any Christian travels
- The five thresholds of the spiritual journey
- Evangelizing as an individual
- Evangelizing as a parish

Be a part of this vibrant workshop ...

- If you are concerned about someone you know who has left the Church
- If you read *Forming Intentional Disciples* and were intrigued/excited
- If you are part of a parish pastoral council or parish staff and have made evangelization part of your parish plan
- If you are part of an evangelization team in a parish
- If you are in any parish ministry and wonder how to reach more people
- If you care about how to get young people interested in the Church

Registration available soon at www.dioceseofscranton.org
Cost: Individual \$35 Parish Team of Five \$150

March 2015 Family Opportunities

1. Family: God Is in the Mix of It All:

What is this about? Here is an easy way to offer parents 3 mini-retreats with a nationally known speaker AND to help them see the holiness of their married life and life as parents. The topics are:

- Marriage: Love Is Primarily a Choice
- The Mess and Blessedness of Family Life
- Parenting (Subtitled: "What Was I Thinking?")

There is also a ten-minute guided reflection, "Entrusting Your Child to God."

How could I use it? Offer the series to parents during 3 consecutive CCD/Religious Education classes or once a week for 3 weeks during the public/Catholic school day at the parish center. Each time you'll show a 10-12 minute video by Fr. Joseph Kempf on the spirituality of marriage and family life and help the group discuss the video with the guidance of some reflection questions (Included with the DVD).

How can I get the DVD? Order it from *Our Sunday Visitor* at www.osv.com for \$20.

2. Helping Families Choose Life, Part 3:

Good Communication in Families with Elementary School Children

What is this about? This is the third brief video in a series teaching parenting skills. Produced in collaboration with Catholic Social Services, it features Mary Kobrick Shell, who gives advice for parenting children ages 6-12. Mary encourages parents to be realistic about their parenting and be their own cheerleaders. She invites parents to consciously choose the values they wish to pass on to children and explains what is different about discipline at this stage of development. Mary also explores family meetings as a tool for strengthening communication.

What can I do with this to help parents in my parish? Some options include:

- Get the word out – in the bulletin, parish webpage/Facebook page or newsletter for CCD/Religious Ed or the Catholic school-- that this is available for viewing privately. Viewing links are listed below.
- Invite parents of elementary school-aged children for an evening/weekend/afternoon for reflection. Show the video and discuss. Use a prayer/reflective activity from www.vibrantfaith@home.org.
- Show this to parents while their children are attending religious education classes and discuss. Use a prayer/reflective activity from www.vibrantfaith@home.org.

TEAM MEMBERS

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

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

Coordinator for Youth and Young Adult Ministries:

Tommy McGrady

Director for WORSHIP: **David Baloga**

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

Director for SERVICE and Social Concerns: **David Clarke**

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 Ministry with the Deaf and

Persons with Disabilities: **Sr. Mary Beth Makuch**

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

Consultant, Parish Pastoral Council Development: **Ann Marie Cawley**

Event Coordinator for Diocesan Pastoral Center: **Sue Burke**

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

Receptionist: **Jennifer Andres** Data Manager/Registrar: **Nancy Valtos**

Administrative Assistant: **Diane Franklin** Office Manager: **Marge Kosmahl**

www.dioceseofscranton.org



OFFICE FOR PARISH LIFE
330 WYOMING AVENUE
SCRANTON, PA 18503
(570) 207-2213