

Evangelization & Mission
Team

PCL Connect E-Newsletter
Glorifying God – Growing in Faith
Living our Catholic Faith in the World
April 2024 Edition

“Jesus Christ loves you; he gave his life to save you; and now he is living at your side every day to enlighten, strengthen and free you.” (Pope Francis, Evangelii Gaudium, 164)

Principles of Initiation Ministry Workshop Recordings:



Thanks to all who participated in the Pastoral Principles of Christian Initiation Ministry facilitated in English and Spanish with staff from LTP. You and your team have access to the recordings and the slides until our in-person session on September 14 at Saints Peter and Paul parish in Atlantic. These sessions provide a great opportunity to have parish formation sessions for your initiation team (clergy and laity) or for prospective members who you would like to invite into initiation ministry.

The principles discussed were:

- 1) Community
- 2) Conversion
- 3) Catechesis
- 4) Liturgy
- 5) Adaptability
- 6) Missionary Discipleship.

There are three sessions. Each session is 90 minutes.

English language sessions:

Session One

[Download the Slides](#)

[Access the Recording](#) - Passcode: VWCIPPES1

Session Two

[Download the Slides](#)

[Access the Recording](#) - Passcode: VWCIPPES2

Session Three

[Download the Slides](#)

[Access the Recording](#) - Passcode: VWCIPPES3

Spanish language sessions:

Sesión Uno

[Descargar el folleto](#)

[Acceder a la grabación](#) - Código de acceso: VWCIPPSS1

Sesión Dos

[Descargar el folleto](#)

[Acceder a la grabación](#) - Código de acceso: VWCIPPSS2

Sesión Tres

[Descargar el folleto](#)

[Acceder a la grabación](#) - Código de acceso: VWCIPPSS3

Register Today for the *In-Person Workshop - September 14, 2024 – 9:00 am to 4:00 pm*

[An Introduction to the OCIA – The Vision of Christian Initiation Ministry](#)

Location: Saints Peter & Paul Catholic Church 106 West 6th St., Atlantic, IA 50022

Cost: This workshop is free thanks To Father Trevor applying for a Parish Mission Renewal grant. There will be a free will offering to offset the cost of lunch.

At the same time and location, this workshop will also be available in Spanish.

Applications for Parish Mission Renewal Grants end on April 26 at 4:00 pm – Begin the process today:



Moines.

What are those missed pastoral opportunities you would like to provide your parish community but can't due to your budget? Prayerfully consider applying for a Parish Mission Renewal grant this year. The portal is currently open. We have \$70,000 to award for parish mission renewal this year. Successful grants will be awarded the funds this June.

In 2023, Parish Mission Renewal awarded \$10,000 to St. Patrick parish in Perry to revive Hispanic Ministry. Two other grants for \$5,000 each were awarded to St. Patrick parish in Imogene and St. Ambrose Cathedral in Des

Find more information at the [Catholic Foundation website](#). Contact [John Gaffney](#) for more information and discuss your proposed project to apply for a Parish Mission Renewal grant.

Family Resources for Easter:



Perhaps you've heard the phrase, "*We are an Easter people.*" Good Friday was not the end. The "Season" in which we live waiting for Jesus' second coming is Easter or perhaps, more fittingly, Pentecost. Ponder, celebrate and testify to that truth!

Living Easter has been redesigned with resources for March 31-May 19. The Easter Essentials resources for Easter Sunday, the entire Easter Season, Faith Conversations, and ways to celebrate feasts within the Easter Season. These

Easter resources can be found at [this link](#).

Pascua Viviente has many resources for our Spanish speaking sisters and brothers.

Save the Date for May 16 at All Saints Parish in Stuart - Let's Celebrate the 2023-2024 Formation Year:

As we enter into the final weeks of our main formation opportunities, let's spend the time together to celebrate YOU. Our gathering begins at 9:00 am and ends by 1:30 pm. Although the gathering is still being planned here is a little idea to get you excited to join us:

- A speaker to help us process our formation year.
- A look ahead at the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage and the Jubilee focused on "Pilgrims of Hope".
- Celebrating retirements.
- A delicious catered lunch

Information will be sent under separate cover with full details by April 11.

Pastoral Plan Launch with regional discussions:

Attached to this e-newsletter you will find a letter from Bishop Joensen to pastors around the Diocese around the official launch of the pastoral plan at Pentecost. We are sharing this information with you so you are in the loop around what is happening. You may be asked by your pastor to be present at one of the regional discussions, and certainly the pastoral plan and the toolkits will be part of your ministry outreach as your local pastoral plan continues to unfold in your community.

A significant part of Bishop's letter is found on page two as it relates to the expectation for connecting the work you do with one of the pastoral priorities and the use of a toolkit. *Bishop Joensen writes, "I encourage flexibility with the discernment tools that will be provided; feel free to use in full or modify as you find helpful. Especially if you have recently set pastoral priorities, we will want to find ways to "translate" your results and not expect you to start from scratch. I also urge you to lean on parish (where applicable) and diocesan staff for assistance, and know that the goal is not comprehensive realization of all priorities, but well discerned engagement."*

The Evangelization and Mission Team, along with members of each pastoral priority commission, is here to be of service to you. Please let us accompany you as you begin to discern the best pastoral path forward for your parish community. Attached is also the infographic on the six pastoral priorities.

[Email me](#) with any questions.

Items from Disability Ministry:

May is Mental Health Awareness Month:

We will be holding an upcoming Mass and retreat on May 5th! More details on social media and Diocesan Event page coming soon.

Title: Mental Health Ministry Mass and Retreat

Day/Time/Location: Mass, May 5, 2024, at 11 am at Cathedral, Retreat 12-4 PM at Catholic Pastoral Center. Lunch is provided

Target audience: Those who want to explore the topic of mental health from a Catholic Perspective. A chance to grow in understanding, appreciation, and compassion.

Description: Join us for a day of prayer and fellowship. This retreat will offer a deeper understanding and appreciation for topics related to mental health from a Catholic perspective.

We invite you to plan Mental Health Awareness and prayer opportunities at your parish:

- Hold a prayer service such as praying the [Stations of the Cross for Persons with Mental Illness and their Families and Friends](#)
- Give away awareness tools and prayer cards:
 - [Green ribbons for Mental Health Awareness Month](#)—Go Green!
 - Share [Prayer cards](#) from St. Dymphna, Christ on the Cross and St. John of God. Available from Association of Catholic Mental Health Ministers.
 - Invite parishioners to pray the [Novena for Mental Health from the USCCB](#)
 - Share [Pew Cards: Mental Illness: Breaking the Silence](#) to raise awareness about mental health and additional resources in the [Mental Health Resource section](#).
 - Include persons with mental illness and their caregivers in your [Prayers of the Faithful or other prayer resources](#).
- [May 16 mental Health Action Day](#)—raise awareness to take one action.
 - Hold a parish prayers service or encourage people pray the Mental Health Novena, go for walk, visit a friend. Etc.

April Virtual Lunch and Learns for Tips and Tools on Disability for Faith Formation Leaders and their Catechists:

Are you thinking about the past year of faith formation events and classes and ways to improve for next year?

Learn some new ideas by attending 24-32 minute **Lunch and Learn Classes from the Tips and Tools Course** (flyer attached) from the National Catholic Partnership on Disability. [Making faith formation accessible for learners with disabilities benefits EVERYONE](#).

The sessions will be on Monday and Thursdays in April at noon and at 6:30 pm on Zoom.

All Faith Formation Leaders and their Catechists are invited to attend as they are able. Outlook invites will be sent to Faith Formation Leaders for each course for your calendar. Please share the attached flyer electronically with your catechists as it includes the links to all the Zoom sessions.

Respite Waiver Event Consent PDF Fillable Form:

For parishes that are considering accompanying families with children with disabilities by providing a “respite night” for parents/caregivers to have break, attached is a **Respite Waiver Event Consent pdf fillable form** that can be used at parishes. And remember we do have funding available for a parish to host an event and organization tools such as registration forms,

training of volunteer materials, etc. to help you get organized for the event. Contact Patty Origer, poriger@dmdiocese.org for additional resources.

Please Complete a National Survey of Parish Disability Awareness and Practices from NCPD and CARA at Georgetown University:

Parishes please watch for a national disability survey sent by email which will help ministry leaders across the country understand and improve parish disability awareness and practices. Or you can [Take the Survey for Parish Leaders here!](#) The results will be able to also help us Diocese wide develop resources and tools to assist you better.

Nourish for Caregiver Support Group:



The next Nourish for Caregivers support group **meeting** is April 24, 2024, from 6- 7:30 p.m. at Holy Trinity Parish, School Media Center, 2926 Beaver Ave. Des Moines. Flyer and details available on the [Diocesan Event Page](#). Contact [Deacon Dan Maxcy](#) or [Deacon Jim](#)

[Houston](#) for more information.

Contact [Patty Origer](#), 515-237-5073, Coordinator of Persons with Disability Ministry if you have questions or need additional resources

Diocese of Des Moines Disability Ministry



April Important Dates:

- March 31-April 7 – [Octave of Easter](#)
- April 5 – [Saint Vincent Ferrer](#)
- April 7 – [Divine Mercy Sunday](#)
- April 7 – [Saint John Baptist de La Salle](#)
- April 8 – [Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord](#)
- April 11 – [Saint Stanislaus](#)
- April 16 – [Saint Bernadette Soubirous](#)
- April 19 – [Saint Gianna Beretta Molla](#)
- April 21 – [Saint Anselm](#)
- April 25 – [Feast of Saint Mark, Evangelist](#)
- April 29 – [Saint Catherine of Siena](#)

