

Office for

Evangelization & Faith Formation

Deepening faith in Jesus and sharing Him with others

February 2017 Newsletter



Winter Youth Retreat – Fulfilled

The annual Winter Retreat provides an opportunity for our young people to take time out of their busy lives to slow down and be with God for one faith-filled weekend. Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, this time provides youth with an opportunity to encounter Jesus, reflect upon the movement of God in their lives, and develop what their personal response will be to the call of discipleship that they receive at their baptism. This retreat is a time to come to know and love God even more. The Winter Retreat is scheduled for February 24-26th. Registration will open later this week. The cost is \$125 per person. Youth in grades 9-12 are eligible to attend.

2016-17 Catechetical Training and Catechetical Certification Schedule

The schedule of Catechetical Training and Catechetical Certification classes is available [here](#), with a link to registration. Registration for the final two classes scheduled this year ends this week. Additionally, Orientation, Creed, Sacraments, Morality, Liturgy, Ecclesiology, and Scripture can be taken online through the Echoes of Faith program. To purchase a license for the Echoes of Faith online courses please contact Tina.

NCYC

A pilgrimage of faith, NCYC is an exciting, biennial three-day experience of prayer, community and empowerment for Catholic teenagers addressing a wide variety of topics including Catholic spirituality and prayer, social justice issues, sexuality and leadership. NCYC 2017, with the theme "Called", will take place in Indianapolis, Ind., Nov. 16 through Nov. 18, 2017. A few spots are still open for reservation! Information is available [here](#). Please contact Christie Smith if you have questions or concerns about taking a group to NCYC.

Steubenville Youth Conference

The Office for Evangelization and Faith Formation is coordinating a trip to The Steubenville Youth Conference. The date for this year's conference is June 23- 25, 2017. Limited spots are still available for reservation! The conference is open to all ninth through twelfth graders (including incoming freshman for the 2017-18 school year). To register, or for more information, please contact Christie Smith.

Summer Program For Catholic Youth

Saint Vincent College, Latrobe, will host the seventh annual Faith and Reason summer program from Sunday, June 11 to Friday, June 16. Students age 15 and older are invited to apply for admission to the program which introduces young minds to the rich intellectual tradition of the Roman Catholic faith and is designed to prepare students for college-level education. Housing in a college residence hall and three daily meals in the college dining hall are included in the cost (\$495). Limited scholarship funding is available. Further information is available by contacting Dr. Michael Krom at 724 805-2844 or michael.krom@stvincent.edu. Students may register online at www.stvincent.edu/faithandreason

Catholic Engaged Encounter

Catholic Engaged Encounter is an in-depth, private, personal, marriage preparation experience within the context of Catholic faith and values. Catholic Engaged Encounter is a weekend retreat away with other engaged couples with time alone together to discuss honestly and intensively about their future lives together-- their strengths and weaknesses, desires, ambitions, goals, attitudes about money, sex, children, family, and their role in the church and society. The next weekend in Greensburg is June 9-11, 2017. For more information please contact George & Pat Ziringer (724-335-4966), ziringer@comcast.net, or www.engagedencounter.org

Natural Family Planning

The key to successful NFP use is cooperation and communication between husband and wife. CM-BBT is a sympto-thermal medical model of Natural Family Planning. There are one-time instruction sessions held on Monday evenings or Saturday mornings at the Catholic Charities' main office in downtown Greensburg. The next scheduled CM-BBT Instruction Sessions are scheduled for Monday, March 11th at 6pm and Saturday, April 3rd at 10am. For more information contact Mary Ann Newhouse at 724-837-1840, ext 1658.

Contact Us

Robert Sherwin, Managing Director
Christina Smith, Director, Youth/Young Adult Ministry and Adult Initiation
Greg Petrucci, Director of Evangelization
Rich and Leeanna Ryba, Marriage Preparation & Enrichment Trainers
Father E. George Saletrik, Chaplain, Catholic Committee on Scouting
Jackie Mignogna, Secretary
Tina Moore, Secretary

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Upcoming Events in the Diocese

[2/18/2017 Catholicism in America](#)

[2/21/2017 & 2/28/2017 Church History](#)

[2/24-26/2017 Winter Youth Retreat](#)

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Prayer In Defense Of Marriage

God our Father, we give you thanks for the gift of marriage: the bond of life and love, and the font of the family. The love of husband and wife enriches your Church with children, fills the world with a multitude of spiritual fruitfulness and service, and is the sign of the love of your Son, Jesus Christ, for his Church.

The grace of Jesus flowed forth at Cana at the request of the Blessed Mother. May your Son, through the intercession of Mary, pour out upon us a new measure of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit as we join with all people of good will to promote and protect the unique beauty of marriage.

May your Holy Spirit enlighten our society to treasure the heroic love of husband and wife, and guide our leaders to sustain and protect the singular place of mothers and fathers in the lives of their children.

Father, we ask that our prayers be joined to those of the Virgin Mary, that your Word may transform our service so as to safeguard the incomparable splendor of marriage.

We ask all these things through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Saints Joachim and Anne, pray for us.

- United States Conference of Catholic Bishops