

# Office for Evangelization & Faith Formation

Deepening faith in Jesus and sharing Him with others

June 2017 Newsletter



## Meeting for New Leaders in Evangelization and Faith Formation

We have reached the time of year when the transitions in parish leadership positions in Faith Formation, Youth Ministry, and RCIA are beginning to occur. If you have been hired or volunteered to coordinate and lead RCIA, Faith Formation, or Youth Ministry since September 14, 2016, you are invited to our meeting for new leaders in evangelization and faith formation scheduled for Wednesday, September 13, 2017 at The Pastoral Center in Greensburg. There will be a morning session from 9:30-12:30 or an evening session from 6:30-9:30. To register for this event [email Tina Moore](mailto:tina.moore@dioceseofgreensburg.org) or call 724-552-2583.

## Cedar Point Diocesan Youth Trip

Attention all parish youth currently in Grades 5 - 12! You are invited to join the Diocesan Office for Evangelization and Faith Formation on Wednesday, June 28, 2017 for an exciting Diocesan Youth trip to Cedar Point amusement park in Ohio. The cost for the day is \$85 and includes admission to Cedar Point, bus transportation, lunch, all you can drink wristband, and a catered dinner in the park. Please note that those in grades 5-7 must be accompanied by a parent/chaperone in the park. Graduating seniors 18 and older must have all appropriate clearances. Registration deadline is June 19 or whenever the buses fill. Contact the parish office for details or [visit the website](http://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org). Plan to enjoy this FUN-FILLED day!

## Job Opportunity

The Church of St. John the Baptist in Perryopolis, is seeking a qualified person for the position of Director of Faith Formation. The position will be part-time (20 to 25 hours per week) and will oversee religious and faith formation in the parish, including Faith Formation for Pre-K to High School Youth Ministry, Adult and Family Formation; Sacramental Preparation for First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, Confirmation, Infant Baptism, RCIA, and Marriage; all in collaboration with the Pastor. Qualified candidates must be practicing Catholics with training in religious formation or theology. If interested, please send a resume and cover letter to:

Rev. Anthony W. Ditto  
Church of St. John the Baptist  
3332 Pittsburgh Road  
Perryopolis, PA 15473

## Catechetical Sunday

This year, the Church will **celebrate Catechetical Sunday on September 17, 2017**. The 2017 theme will be "Living as Missionary Disciples." Those who the Community has designated to serve as catechists will be called forth to be commissioned for their ministry. Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Catechetical Sunday is an opportunity for all to rededicate themselves to this mission as a community of faith. [Click here for many downloadable resources from the USCCB](http://www.usccb.org).

## Trainings and In-Services for 2017-18

The Office for Evangelization and Faith Formation is proud to announce its Training and In-Service schedule for the 2017-18 Catechetical Year. More information on registration, speakers, sponsors, and certification equivalency credit will be forthcoming. But, please mark your calendars for these trainings and in-services. Additionally, please consider giving your catechists in these grades the day off on these Saturdays to attend these critical in-services, if your formation takes place on Saturday. Finally, in July we will publish our full schedule of certification classes for 2017-18.

- Thursday, September 21 – Theology of the Body for High School – St. Bruno, Greensburg
- Friday, September 22 – Theology of the Body for Middle School – St. Bruno, Greensburg
- Saturday, September 23 – Theology of the Body for Middle School – St. Bruno, Greensburg
- Friday, December 1 – Evangelization and Prayer for Grades K-2 – St. Barbara, Harrison City
- Saturday, December 2 – Evangelization and Prayer for Grades K-2 – St. Barbara, Harrison City
- Friday, March 2 – Personal relationship with Jesus Christ for Grades 3-5 – Visitation, Mt. Pleasant
- Saturday, March 3 – Personal relationship with Jesus Christ for Grades 3-5 – Visitation, Mt. Pleasant

## Calendar For 2017-2018

[Click here to view the 2017-18 calendar for the Office for Evangelization and Faith Formation](http://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org). We are excited about this year's calendar as we have added some new and exciting events. On June 2, 2018 we will be sponsoring the first ever Family Conference for the Diocese of Greensburg. More details will be forthcoming on this new and exciting family-friendly community event.

## Sponsor Couple Training

There is only one more Spring date for Sponsor Couple Training - June 11. Sponsor Couple training will take place at the Pastoral Center located at 723 E. Pittsburgh Street, Greensburg, PA 15601. The time is from 1:00pm to 4:15pm and a light lunch is provided. Attendees should go around to the back of the building and look for the signs as to where to park and enter the building. Each person must have a copy of the handbook, *For Better and For Ever*. To order the book, go to the website [www.marriagepreparation.com](http://www.marriagepreparation.com). To register, or for more information, call Rich and Leeanna Ryba at 724-289-8748 or 412-951-9522. [Or email Tina Moore](mailto:tina.moore@dioceseofgreensburg.org).

## Sister Speakers

As part of the Sisters of Charity's grateful response to the heritage of St. Vincent De Paul, on this 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary, they would like to offer *SISTER SPEAKERS* programs to local parishes, and organizations. [Please click here for more information](http://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org).

## Adult Scout Religious Emblems Ad Altare Dei Moderator Training

The Diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting for Boys will hold an **Adult Moderator Training to counsel the Ad Altare Dei Emblem**, Saturday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017 from 9 am to 1 pm, at St. Barbara Church in Room 108. There is no cost for this training but registration is necessary. [Register Here](http://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org) All trainees will need both the Ad Altare Dei Scout Book (cost is \$5) and the Ad Altare Dei Counselor Manual (cost is \$10). Copies of the books can be purchased at the training session with a check made payable to The Diocese of Greensburg or by completing the [order form](http://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org). For further information, please contact Tina Moore at [tmoore@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:tmoore@dioceseofgreensburg.org). Adult counselors trained prior to 2012 must update their AAD Certification. Please note that in addition to the certification training, all participants **must** have **Protecting God's Children** (VIRTUS) training, sign the Code of Pastoral Conduct and complete all **PA Child Services Law** requirements. The **Boy Scouts of America** also require training.

## Summer Institute

The Diocese of Pittsburgh has invited outstanding professors, writers, and artists to meet with teachers and catechists to talk through how best to integrate the faith into schools, curricula, and teaching. Each class starts with the interest and passion that the teacher has for their subject and, through conversation guided by the instructor, attempts to open new avenues to infuse their discipline with the principles of faith and reason. By sharing Mass, meals, conversation, and various art forms, in addition to the instruction time, we hope to immerse ourselves over the three day period in the rich culture of Catholicism. In this short but intense time, we hope to taste some of what Christ promised in John 10:10, where he promised that he "came that they may have life, and have it abundantly." [For more information, click here](http://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org).

## Preparation Rites Retreat for the Elect on Holy Saturday

In order to help you prepare the elect for their initiation, Sr. Miriam Malone, SNJM, has written a Holy Saturday retreat, which includes the Preparation Rites, that is FREE for subscribers to TeamRCIA. The RCIA suggests that all of Holy Saturday be a time of retreat:

The elect are to be advised that on Holy Saturday they should refrain from their usual activities, spend their time in prayer and reflection, and, as far as they can, observe a fast. (185)

[Learn more](http://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org)

## CGS Level II Formation Course Offered at Saint John Neumann – Part One: August 22-27, 2017

Mary Heinrich, recognized formation leader formed in all three levels of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd and Membership Coordinator for The National Association of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd will be leading this course. Barbara Matera is a recognized Level I formation leader and chairs the Board of Trustees for the National Association of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. [Please click here for more details pertaining to the course](http://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org).

## 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 September 22-24, 2017. For more information please contact George & Pat Ziringer (724-335-4966) [ziringer@comcast.net](mailto:ziringer@comcast.net), or [www.engagedencounter.org](http://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 session is scheduled for Monday, July 10<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. 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, Reconciliation & Enrichment Trainers  
**Father E. George Saletnik**, Chaplain, Catholic Committee on Scouting  
**Jackie Mignogna**, Secretary  
**Tina Moore**, Secretary

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## Upcoming Events in the Diocese

- 6/9-11 [Engaged Encounter Weekend](http://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org)
- 6/10 [Ad Altare Dei Moderator Training](http://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org)
- 6/11 [Sponsor Couple Training](http://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org)
- 6/11-16 [Faith and Reason Youth Summer Program](http://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org)
- 6/23-25 [Steubenville Youth Conference](http://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org)
- 6/28 [Cedar Point Youth Trip](http://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org)
- 7/3 [Deadline for Francis Fund Applications](http://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org)
- 7/9 [Youth Honors Celebration](http://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org)
- 7/29 [Jeremiah Days](http://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org)
- 9/1 [Deadline for Francis Fund Applications](http://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org)
- 9/13 [New Leaders Meeting](http://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org)
- 9/21 [In-Service Meeting Theology of the Body for High School - St. Bruno, Greensburg](http://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org)
- 9/22 [In-Service Meeting Theology of the Body for Middle School - St. Bruno, Greensburg](http://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org)
- 9/23 [In-Service Meeting Theology of the Body for Middle School - St. Bruno, Greensburg](http://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org)

[View the 2017-2018 Calendar](http://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org)

## Bless Our Fathers

Heavenly Father,  
Today we ask You to bless our earthly fathers for the many times they reflected the love, strength, generosity, wisdom and mercy that You exemplify in Your relationship with us, Your children.

We honor our fathers for putting our needs above their own convenience and comfort; for teaching us to show courage and determination in the face of adversity; for challenging us to move beyond self-limiting boundaries; for modeling the qualities that would turn us into responsible, principled, caring adults.

Not all our fathers lived up to these ideals.  
Give them the grace to acknowledge and learn from their mistakes.  
Give us the grace to extend to them the same forgiveness that you offer us all.  
Help us to resist the urge to stay stuck in past bitterness, instead, moving forward with humility and peace of heart.

We ask your blessing on those men who served as father figures in our lives when our biological fathers weren't able to do so.  
May the love and selflessness they showed us be returned to them in all their relationships, and help them to know that their influence has changed us for the better.

Give new and future fathers the guidance they need to raise happy and holy children, grounded in a love for God and other people - and remind these fathers that treating their wives with dignity, compassion and respect is one of the greatest gifts they can give their children.

We pray that our fathers who have passed into the next life have been welcomed into Your loving embrace, and that our family will one be day be reunited in your heavenly kingdom.

In union with St. Joseph, whom you entrusted with Your Son, we ask Your generous blessings today and every day.

Amen.

- Tony Rossi