

Office for Evangelization & Faith Formation

Deepening faith in Jesus and sharing Him with others

May 2017 Newsletter



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.

- 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. 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.

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](#). Plan to enjoy this FUN-FILLED day!

New Middle School Priesthood Discernment Group

Jeremiah Days is a new opportunity for middle school aged boys and their parents, or guardian, to gather to learn, discuss, and pray about a vocation to the priesthood. The group will meet on the following days: May 27, July 29, October 21, 2017 and January 27, 2018 & April 28, 2018 from 9:30 am – 11:00 am at St. Barbara Church in Harrison City. To register please email Fr. Tyler Bandura.

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. To register, or for more information, call Rich and Leeanna Ryba at 724-289-8748 or 412-951-9522. Or email Tina Moore.

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

Fall Confirmation Prep

As has become our spring tradition we wanted to remind those who are in Block 3 for the Administration of the Sacrament of Confirmation, that last year, Bishop Malesic administered the Sacrament in the fall. In all likelihood that will be the case again in the Fall of 2017. It is advisable if you are in Block 3 that you plan to have your day of reflection this spring and your family day of service and social closer to the celebration of the Sacrament. Should you have any questions, please contact Bob Sherwin.

Western PA Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Gathering

All CGS Catechists and those who are interested in learning more about The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd are invited to attend the Western Pennsylvania Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Regional Gathering at Saint John Neumann Wexford, PA on June 1-3. [Please click here for more info.](#) [Register here.](#)

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.](#)

Sister Speakers

As part of the Sisters of Charity's grateful response to the heritage of St. Vincent De Paul, on this 400th anniversary, they would like to offer programs to local parishes, and organizations. [Please click here for more information.](#)

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 10th, 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](#) 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](#). For further information, please contact Tina Moore at tmoores@dioceseofgreensburg.org. Adult counselors trained prior to 2009 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.**

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 symptom-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, June 5th 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 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

- 5/27 [Jeremiah Days](#)
- 6/4 [Youth/Adult Confirmation at The Cathedral](#)
- 6/9-11 [Engaged Encounter Weekend](#)
- 6/10 [Ad Altare Dei Moderator Training](#)
- 6/11 Sponsor Couple Training
- 6/11-16 [Faith and Reason Youth Summer Program](#)
- 6/23-25 [Steubenville Youth Conference](#)
- 6/28 [Cedar Point Youth Trip](#)
- 7/3 [Deadline for Francis Fund Applications](#)
- 7/9 Youth Honors Celebration
- 7/29 [Jeremiah Days](#)
- 9/1 [Deadline for Francis Fund Applications](#)
- 9/13 New Leaders Meeting
- 9/21 In-Service Meeting Theology of the Body for High School - St. Bruno, Greensburg
- 9/22 In-Service Meeting Theology of the Body for Middle School - St. Bruno, Greensburg
- 9/23 In-Service Meeting Theology of the Body for Middle School - St. Bruno, Greensburg

A Prayer for Mothers

All-loving God, we give you thanks and praise for mothers young and old.

We pray for young mothers, who give life and count toes and tend to our every need; May they be blessed with patience and tenderness to care for their families and themselves with great joy.

We pray for our own mothers who have nurtured and cared for us; May they continue to guide us in strong and gentle ways.

We remember mothers who are separated from their children because of war, poverty, or conflict; May they feel the loving embrace of our God who wipes every tear away.

We pray for women who are not mothers but still love and shape us with motherly care and compassion.

We remember mothers, grandmothers, and great-grandmothers, who are no longer with us but who live forever in our memory and nourish us with their love.

Amen.