



March 2009 Issue

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UPCOMING

March

TEC Weekend

YABE weekend

Diocesan Catholic Youth Conference

FROM THE DIRECTOR...

Whether you love it or sometimes dread it a bit, the season of Lent is here!

In my life, some lenten seasons have been more spiritually fruitful than others, depending upon attitude, and I count on God's grace to make the difference. This year, God has me thinking about Lent as a season of "Love Lessons." In other words, how I can learn to love more deeply during these next six weeks.

On Ash Wednesday, I had the blessing to attend the noon Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, and our presider, Bishop Jackels spoke of that very thing! Now, I don't remember everything he said (sorry, Bishop) but I do remember three areas he recommended that we all work on to learn how to imitate Christ in the way that we love. I would like to elaborate a bit on those three areas:

- **Forgive** ---boy is that a biggie; it seems so difficult to forgive those we feel have deeply wronged us, and even more difficult to forgive ourselves. Yet, with God's grace...
- **Serve others** ---may seem like a "no-brainer" for those actively involved in ministry--and yet, how do we serve with a joyful heart, and how do we give even MORE? Again, with God's grace...
- **Sacrifice**---for me, this "love lesson" goes way beyond giving up sweets and such, although that disciple is certainly helpful. For me, this is learning to put others first, and letting go of my ego. (Ego=Edging God Out.) It also means replacing bad habits with much better ones that allow me to love more. I'm *totally* relying on God's grace for this one!

So, here's to all of our Lenten journeys. May they be filled with many love lessons that move us closer to imitating Christ!

P.S. Check out [40 Ways for Teens to Keep Lent](#) and share it with your young people.

(DCYC)

April

CLAY retreat

[click here for full calendar](#)

ONLINE RESOURCES

[Christian Foundation for Children and Aging](#) (CFCA)
youth-oriented site

[The H2O Challenge](#)
a great 2-week
lenten project

DCYC

reminder!

Times are tough-- but they are the toughest for the poorest among us. Please don't forget to bring your donations for Catholic Charities to the Diocesan Catholic Youth Conference on March 28.
THANK YOU!!!

Give yourself a break!

Join us for the "[Gathered Around the Campfire](#)"

Lenten Retreat
on Mar 14 or 15.

Must RSVP by

March for Life

[Marching On...](#) 12 ways to continue your March For Life Experience and support life!

ADULT TRAINING AND FORMATION

At the Spiritual Life Center:

SERIES: "Justice: A Call to Passionate Discipleship" with Mr. Jim Rundell, Mondays, March 9, 16 and 23, 2009 from 7-8:30 p.m.

SPECIAL EVENT: "Please Lord, What Do I Do Next?" with Fr. Bernie Gorges and presentations from representatives of the Catholic Family Federal Credit Union and Consumer Credit Counseling, Inc., 2-5 p.m. on Sunday, March 15, 2009.

RETREAT: "Palm Sunday Weekend Retreat," with Bishop Michael O. Jackels, April 3-5, 2009.

RETREAT: "Purposely for God: Being Our Best Devoted Selves," with Father John Graden, OSFS, June 12-14, 2009.

RETREAT: Individually Directed Retreat, July 12-20, 2009, with various spiritual directors-choose between 5 or 8 days.

With the Religious Education Office:

Mar 14 - Lenten Retreat in Clare Hall at St. Francis of Assisi (9:30 am -2:30 pm) **DEADLINE! March 5**

Mar 15 - Lenten Retreat at OLL in Pittsburg (1:15-5:30 pm) **DEADLINE! March 5**

With the Youth & Young Adult Ministries Office:

Mar 28 - "Beyond Facebook: Reaching Today's Youth" adult session during the Diocesan Catholic Youth Conference (DCYC) at the Airport Hilton.

With your computer:

[STEP](#) (Satellite Theological Education Program) at the University of Notre Dame has two online courses coming up. Time commitment: 3-5 hours per week; Cost \$79 per course.

Youth Ministry 101 (June 8-July 10, 2009) online course to enhance your ministry and get you discussing and sharing with other youth ministers.

Youth Ministry 202 (Feb 23 -Mar 29, 2009) online course designed for for dedicated to mentoring youth into adult faith in the Roman Catholic Church.

Looking ahead:

Institute for New Youth Ministers - Chicago, IL (July 28-31)
Register by May 15 and save \$50 register online.

DIRECT MINISTRY FOR YOUTH

March 5

Young Adult Beginning Experience

YABE is a unique retreat designed for those 16 and older. The YABE program helps address the normal feelings of loss and pain when the family unit undergoes severe change due to death, or a changed parental relationship through separation or divorce.

The next YABE weekend will be held in Wichita on **March 20-22, 2009.**

Contact [Karen](#) for more information.

- [TEC](#) weekend March 7-9, 2009
- YABE weekend March 20-22, 2009
- [Diocesan Catholic Youth Conference](#) March 28-29
- [CLAY](#) retreat April 18-19, 2009

TEEN RESOURCES

These books are available in our lending library for you to review free of charge:

Scripture Alive: Role-Plays for Youth

Contains 16 different scripture passages with all hand-outs; reflection questions and prayers to help teens with conscience formation through lively role-playing activities. A great method to connect the Bible to everyday life!

A Guide to the Passion

100 Questions based upon the movie, The Passion of the Christ--a great lenten discussion guide!

2009 Response: A Directory of Faith based volunteer opportunities

from the Catholic Network of Volunteer Service. Contains hundreds of short-term or long-term volunteer experiences--especially good for upcoming graduates.

MIDDLE SCHOOL MINISTRY RESOURCES

Available in our lending library!

Group's Best Junior High Meetings Vol. I & II

Each volume contains close to 60 different lively, faith-based activities for junior high gatherings.

LOST AND FOUND!!

FOUND: Several area grocery store gift certificates from a Catholic Youth Organization dated January 3, 2008 were found loose in the US mail. Please contact our office to claim.

LOST: Several books from our lending library are out, and need to return "home" so they can be enjoyed by other parish groups. Please look around for books you may have borrowed this past Fall, and either call to "extend your lease" or kindly return them to our office. Thanks so much!

wishing you a month filled with love lessons,

Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministries
Youth & Young Adult Ministries / Catholic Diocese of Wichita

[Forward email to an interested friend](#)

Wishing you
and yours a very
happy March
4th!
May you
continue
to "march forth"
in faith and love!
-Chris

This email was sent to walker@cdowk.org by edmondsc@cdowk.org.
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Youth & Young Adult Ministries / Catholic Diocese of Wichita | 424 N. Broadway | Wichita | KS | 67202