

Christian Initiation News and Notes

October 2018

CALENDAR: FALL REGIONAL MEETINGS

Good News! Good News!

At the recent regional meetings many parishes reported that they indeed did have Inquirers who were discerning entering the Catholic Church and they are remaining as potential Catechumens and Candidates. There is not a mass exodus and we are grateful that God has given us signs of faith and hope for the present and future!

If you were not able to be at one of them there are handouts that can be sent to you in the mail and by email. Please contact Jeanne Thompson for them as a few are lengthy and are also reproducible.

CATECHESIS AND FORMATION

The annual fall workshop: *Understanding the Annulment Process*: is an informational time for an accurate review of the annulment process.

This workshop is good for all in RCIA, Lay Ecclesial Ministry, Marriage Preparation, and DRE's and Catechists. It is a requirement for Christian Initiation Certification and can be used for CEU hours for all certified Lay Ministers.

It will held on Saturday, November 3, 2018 at Saint Michael Elementary School, Loretto, from 8:30AM – 1:30PM. Very Rev. John D. Byrnes JV, JCL, will be the presenter. The fee is \$15.00 (\$12 each for groups of 3 or more). Repeat attendees are always welcome. Please call the office at the contact numbers below or email: jthompson@dioceseaj.org to register.

This workshop is not intended for the general public. Individual people not in ministry need prior permission of the presenter or Jeanne Thompson.

DIOCESAN WEBSITE: <http://www.dioceseaj.org>

Diocesan News and Calendars for all special events, adult catechetical and formation offerings, and registration for diocesan-wide events can be downloaded from this valuable communication tool. The Christian Initiation site can be found under Ministries. The bi-weekly Diocesan Mailings can be accessed on the homepage under DIOCESE at the bottom of the left hand column. Forms and announcements, bulletin inserts, and *Christian Initiation New and Notes*, etc. are posted as part of the diocesan mailing.

PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

We are still waiting for some parish Director Update Forms needed for *Christian Initiation Parish Directory*. Please complete the form as soon as possible. All mail is still sent to parishes but it is better that we have named person as the recipient. Forms can be downloaded as a PDF or Word document.

RESOURCE LIST ADDITIONS

Ascension Press: ascensionpress.com 800-376-0520.

Ascension Press offers an excellent variety of texts and DVD materials that can be used for middle school, senior high and adult age groups. The DVD's can also be live streamed and viewed on YouTube. You may preview at no cost the materials from Ascension Press on the web or send for printed text materials with a 45 day preview. We do have the complete DVD set and printed booklets for *Chosen: Your Journey toward Confirmation* in the office too.

Augustine Institute: augustineinstitute.org 970-481-2996

DVD and online series Catechetical materials are being used by parishes across the nations in network form. It is worth your while to investigate the materials and format.

Peanut Butter and Grace: Catholic family life, sweet and simple

An excellent online resource tool. Check it out: <https://www.pbgrace.com>

Twenty-Third Publications: twentythirdpublications.com 800-321-0411

Responding to the Sexual Abuse Crisis: The Parish Emergency Kit and the *Supplement to the Parish Emergency Kit* materials may be found as practical tools to assist you in your parish communications and conversation at all levels.

TeamRCIA: attached are two reproducible articles for you to read and pass on.

YOUTH PROTECTION

All paid staff members and volunteers in parishes are required to be in compliance with the Diocesan and State requirements. If your certificates and clearances are not in the parish records please call Director of Children and Youth Protection, Mrs. Cindy O'Connor to verify your status. Non-compliant persons must complete the training before continuing in ministry. You will be able to access all forms on the website: www.dioceseaj.org Youth Protection.

Live sessions have now been scheduled **as an option** for training: Sessions are 8:30 AM-12:30 PM

Two dates and sites this month

Sat. October 13 at Family Life Office, Rte. #53, Lilly

Sat. October 20 at Saint Peter Catholic Church, Annex Building, Somerset

Please email or call Cindy O'Connor at 814-317-2621 or coconnor@dioceseaj.org to register for the live sessions.

PARISH VISITS

Parish team assistance sessions can be scheduled at any time with Jeanne Thompson. This may be a more immediate manner of helping to review individual parish concerns outside of a regional meeting.

OFFICE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION CONTACT INFORMATION
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