

DIOCESAN OFFICES CLOSED

The diocesan offices will be closed on Friday, March 6 for an all day staff retreat. Normal business hours will resume on Monday, March 9, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

VOCATIONS OFFICE

A “*Thinking of Priesthood Day*” will be held Saturday, March 28 at St. Thomas Aquinas Church and Student Center on the campus of Iowa State University in Ames. This event begins at 10 a.m. (registration begins at 9) and concludes at 5 p.m. with Mass and dinner following. Sponsored by the vocation offices of the four dioceses of Iowa, this day is for men, ages 17-45, who might be considering a possible call to priesthood. This day will include informal presentations and discussions, sharing from vocation directors of the four dioceses of Iowa and seminarians. Fr. Jonathan Fassero from St. Meinrad School of Theology will lead the discussions. For more information and to register, please contact Fr. Marty Goetz, 563-324-1912, ext. 259 or goetz@davenportdiocese.org or your local priest.

An “*Exploring Priesthood Weekend*” will be held at Mundelein Seminary March 20-22. This is a wonderful chance for young men to visit the seminary to discern a call to priesthood and learn more about the Mundelein community. For more information or to register, contact Fr. Chris Ciomek, cciomek@usml.edu or Fr. Marty Goetz .

An “*Encounter with God’s Call*” retreat will be held March 28-30 at Conception Seminary College. This retreat is for young men 16 and older who are considering a vocation to Priesthood. This is an excellent opportunity to meet priests and seminarians as they share their stories of responding to God’s call. This visit is free. For more information, contact Conception Seminary College, 660-944-2886 or vocations@conception.edu or Fr. Marty Goetz or your local priest.

DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

Catholic Foundation for the Diocese of Davenport has been approved by the State of Iowa as a separate corporation. We are now applying for our 501(c) 3 status. Funds raised in the Capital Campaign will be put in this foundation. The foundation will be governed by a Board of Directors. The bishop of the diocese will be the president and the vicar general will be the vice president. The remainder of the board members will be lay and will be representative of each deanery. We are looking for members with expertise in legal matters, finance and investments. Please send any suggestions to Sister Laura Goedken at goedken@davenportdiocese.org.

COMMUNICATION OFFICE

Word 2007 Hands-On Training: The schedule for the overview training sessions for Word 2007 has been revised. We will only be offering the training on these days:

March 10 (register by March 5)

May 21 (register by May 15)

The sessions are from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. and are open to persons who work in parish or school ministry. To register or for questions contact Laurie Hoefling, hoefling@davenportdiocese.org or 563-324-1912, ext. 267.

STEWARDSHIP OFFICE

The 2009 Stewardship Institute is designed to train and develop leaders for parish stewardship ministry. It kicks off April 7 (location to be determined) followed by two 8-week sessions; one that begins April 13 with the second session beginning August 10. Anyone interested in participating in the 2009 institute is to contact Dan Ebener at ebener@davenportdiocese.org. Additional details and timeline are attached to this issue. The complete syllabus will be available soon at www.davenportdiocese.org or by contacting Laurie Hoefling, hoefling@davenportdiocese.org.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

9-in-1 Poster: This complete Labor Law Poster includes all state and federal required labor and employment law notices. It has been updated due to new federal regulations. As a courtesy, we will be distributing this free poster to each parish and school. All employers are required by state and federal laws to post this poster in a prominent place.

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN

Sessions are open to all adults in the Diocese of Davenport and are mandated for all employees and those volunteers who work on a regular basis with children. To schedule a session contact your deanery facilitator listed on the diocesan website, www.davenportdiocese.org (Offices, Protecting Children, Safe Environment, Protecting God's Children) or Virginia Trujillo, trujillo@davenportdiocese.org or 563-324-1912, ext. 256. Current training scheduled (as of February 26):

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
3/8/09	Assumption High School, Davenport	3:00 p.m.
5/17/09	Assumption High School, Davenport	3:00 p.m.

To report child abuse contact: Iowa Department of Human Services Child Abuse Hotline: 800-362-2178 and if it involves clergy or church personnel also notify Alicia Owens, the Victim Assistance Coordinator, 563-349-5002, or vacdav@attglobal.net or PO Box 232, Bettendorf, IA 52722-0004.

LITURGY OFFICE

The Chrism Mass will be celebrated at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, March 30 at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Davenport. All in the diocese are invited to attend.

Mystagogy Institute: On July 24-25, the North American Forum on the Catechumenate will be returning to Davenport for a two-day institute on Mystagogy. The program will be held at St. Paul the Apostle Church. Please see the Liturgy Events Page (<http://www.davenportdiocese.org/lit/litevents.htm>) to download a flyer or registration brochure.

PASTORAL SERVICES

Social Action . . .

Available Grants:

- Operation Rice Bowl grants are made to support direct service (the first foot of Social Justice) to people who are hungry.
- CCHD grants are made to organizations for projects that promote systemic change (the second foot of Social Justice).

If your organization is interested in applying, send your request in a 1-2 page letter to: Esmeralda Guerrero, Diocese of Davenport, 2706 N. Gaines St., Davenport 52804-1998. If you have any questions, please call Loxi Hopkins at 324-1912, ext. 246. **Deadline for both grant requests is before May 29.** Grant criteria are available at <http://www.davenportdiocese.org/socialaction/salibrary.htm>.

Catholic Relief Services (CRS):

Fair Trade Treats: Would you like to indulge your sweet tooth and your coffee needs while supporting economic justice? You can by purchasing Fair Trade chocolate and coffee for gifts or for use in the parish or school and know that you are supporting Fair Trade farmers in many countries. The difference between what the farmers receive for Fair Traded produce and what they are paid commercially is the difference between a decent living and hunger. You can purchase Fair Traded coffee from CRS Fair Trade Partners in small to large quantities. Often you can purchase small quantities of Fair Trade coffee locally at specialty coffee shops or the Fair Trade/health food section of major food stores. Visit www.crsfairtrade.org or for chocolate orders go to http://divine.serrv.org/crs/cart.php?m=product_list&c=3 or call, 800-685-7572.

Fair Trade Catalog: A CRS Work of Human Hands catalog is available. The catalog provides access to gifts you won't find anywhere else for the special people in your parish who want to be a part of economic development in the parts of the world served by CRS. For a free copy contact Esmeralda Guerrero, guerrero@davenportdiocese.org or 563-324-1912, ext. 289.

The Diocesan Immigration Program is an agency within the diocese which helps to reunite families split by immigration. They help immigrants to adjust their immigration status and act as an advocate on their behalf. To learn more about the services provided contact Karina Garnica or Anna Zepeda, 563-324-1912, ext. 232/262 or go to: <http://www.davenportdiocese.org/socialaction/saimmigrationprogram.htm>.

Catholic Relief Services Madagascar Update: We join in prayer and solidarity with our friends in our partner Archdiocese in Madagascar for peace and stability to overcome political unrest that has resulted in many deaths and even more injuries. The Church in Madagascar is attempting to play a leading role in the peacemaking process.

Faith at Work: Periodically, the Social Action team, working with *The Catholic Messenger* staff, produces a page devoted to a particular social action or social justice theme. We are always seeking information about your parish and the activities there to promote or to create social justice for the page. If you would like to see your activities featured in the *Messenger*, contact Glenn Leach or Loxi Hopkins, 563-324-1911, leach@davenportdiocese.org, or hopkins@davenportdiocese.org.

SHARE Iowa: Who wouldn't like to save money on their grocery bill these days? The SHARE Program was begun in Iowa with funding from St. Vincent Home Corporation 16 years ago and can offer you up to a 50% savings on nutritious food packages for just 2 hours of volunteer service each month. Contact www.shareiowa.org or call 800-344-1107.

Hope and Healing Ministries will hold the next post abortion retreat in July. Their mission is to provide healing after the hurt of abortion and sexual abuse. For more information contact Maria Shores, 563-322-1645 or hopeandhealingtoday@gmail.com.

Faith Formation . . .

Training Sessions for Leaders of Parish Programs: March 16 and March 23, 6:30-8:30 p.m., St. Bridget Parish, Victor, facilitated by IlaMae Hanisch. Do you ever get this response when you ask someone to lead a discussion or study group in your parish, "I just don't know enough or how to facilitate a group?" There are so many good resources and programs, but what is really needed is a facilitator. A two-session training program is being offered for people interested in leading small-groups (Book clubs, faith sharing groups, bible study, Why Catholic?, Little Rock Scripture Study, etc.). All are welcome to attend. Registration is appreciated so there are enough materials. To attend contact IlaMae Hanisch, 641-791-3435 or hanisch@davenportdiocese.org.

COR (Christ in Others) Retreat: A COR retreat will be held March 28-29 at Holy Trinity, Keota. The application is available at www.davenportdiocese.org. This is for sophomores, juniors and seniors. COR is a weekend full of personal reflection about family and relationships with other people in our lives.

Marriage Preparation-Sponsor Couple Training: March 29, 2:00-4:30 p.m., Sacred Heart, Newton. Married couples who are currently a sponsor couple or couples wanting to begin this ministry are invited to attend. For more information or if you would like to schedule a training session in your area contact IlaMae Hanisch, hanisch@davenportdiocese.org or 641-791-3435.

The Junior High Youth Rally will be held Sunday, March 29 at Regina High School. The theme will be "Gold Medal Catholic: Everyone's a Winner with God." Keynoter will be Popple, two guys who travel the country sharing their unique blend of comedic-acoustic-fun-loving music and their passion for their faith. Information has been emailed to all parishes and can also be found at www.davenportdiocese.org. If you need information, contact [Barbara Butterworth](mailto:Barbara.Butterworth@davenportdiocese.org), butterworthb@davenportdiocese.org or Pat Finan, finan@davenportdiocese.org. Information about Popple can be found here, www.davenportyouth.org.

A retreat for youth ministry leaders will be held April 19-21 at Our Lady of the Prairie retreat center near Wheatland. Our retreat leader will be Fr. Marty Goetz. More information will be sent to parish youth ministry leaders soon.

The June Institute for catechetical leaders will be held Thursday, June 11 at St. Vincent Center, Davenport. Our annual June Institute will focus on how we use the latest technology to enhance our ministry. We'll focus on resources available on the internet (downloadable video and audio files, as well as best websites) along with effective ways to use social networking sites to evangelize and catechize learners of all ages. Our presenter will be Chris Weber, director of youth and young adult ministry in the Muscatine Catholic Community, who has given workshops on these topics in our diocese and at national conferences. More information will be emailed to parish and school leaders soon.

A TEC (Teens Encounter Christ) Retreat will be held July 11-13. TEC is a 3-day retreat for high school juniors and seniors (college freshmen also are welcome) that focuses on the Paschal Mystery. Applications for youth participants will be emailed to all youth ministry leaders in the diocese, and will be available soon online at www.davenportyouth.org

Marriage Preparation Weekends:

March 14-15: Newton, Sacred Heart (registration deadline March 6)

April 25-26: Williamsburg, St. Mary (registration deadline April 17)

June: Sigourney, Date TBA

August 15-16: Newton, Sacred Heart (registration deadline August 7)

Date is set → October 17-18: Muscatine, SS. Mary & Mathias (registration deadline October 9)

The registration form is on the diocesan website, www.davenportdiocese.org (Faith Formation Office, Marriage Preparation). Registration is \$125 per couple. For information about marriage preparation in our diocese or neighboring dioceses contact Barb Butterworth, 563-324-1912, ext. 265 or butterworthb@davenportdiocese.org or IlaMae Hanisch.

Free Scripture Resources are available from Little Rock Scripture Study, www.littlerockscripture.org. *What Does the Bible Say About the Rapture* and *What Does the Bible Say About Six Days to Create the World* are available as a two-page insert for bulletins/newsletters or an eight-page format for group discussion. Future titles are *Being Born Again* and *Faith & Works*. A 13-part series on Saint Paul beginning June 2008 is also a free download. For a small fee *A Year of Sundays* may be purchased. It includes a brief reflection and questions for each Sunday's Gospel for 2009.

Youth Ministry Dates:

- COR Retreat: March 27-29 at Holy Trinity, Keota
- Junior High Youth Rally: March 29, Regina High School, Iowa City featuring Popple
- Retreat for youth ministry leaders, April 19-21, Our Lady of the Prairie Retreat Center
- Catholics in Action: June 28-30, home-base site at Clear Creek Amana High School
- TEC Retreat: July 11-13 at Sacred Heart Parish in Newton
- Christian Leadership Institute (Week 1): July 19-24 at Twin Lakes Christian Center, near Manson
- Christian Leadership Institute (Week 2): July 26-31, Christian Conference Center, Newton
- High School Youth Rally: Oct. 18, Coralville Marriott featuring ValLimar Jansen
- National Catholic Youth Conference: Nov. 19-21, 2009, Kansas City, MO

The Ministry Formation Program is more than a program to train people for ministry, it is also a great way to **grow in your faith and learn more about how you can become more active in your parish.**

“In short, the MFP has literally changed my life! Not to sound cheesy but the light bulb went off within the last year and now I “get it”. I thank God every day for leading me to this program and back to the church.” S.D., Iowa City (a current participant)

You are welcome to register for individual sessions. Two options are available for this program: a) one meeting a month (times and locations around the diocese) or b) two Saturdays a month (uses the Iowa Communications Network also in several locations around the diocese).

The following two programs will be offered for 2008-09. The class schedule follows. For information go to: <http://www.davenportdiocese.org/faithform/ffmfppg1.htm>. Select Basic MFP Info Packet 2008-2009 (25 pages) or Catechetical Specialization Information Packet 2008-2009 (22 pages).

Year II of Basic MFP:

March 7: Legal Themes I	March 21: Legal Themes II
April 4: Theological Themes I	April 25: Theological Themes II

Specialization in Catechetics:

This is highly recommended for parish directors of faith formation/religious education, youth ministers, theology and religion teachers in Catholic Schools.

March 28: Pastoral Praxis II

April 18: Legal Issues

May 9: Youth Ministry/Young Adult

OUR LADY OF VICTORY CHURCH, DAVENPORT

Balancing Faith and Finances

Saturday, March 28, 2009, 1:00-4:00 PM

Overview of 7 Steps to Becoming Financially Free

Presenter: Phil Lenahan, author, and Catholic financial planner

In our modern, materialistic culture we all tend to keep our faith and our finances in two separate boxes. In contrast, the 7 Steps program is based on the belief that how we handle our money is a strong indicator of the vitality of our spiritual life. This eight week, small group study is designed to develop one’s ability to manage resources from a faith-filled perspective. It includes a book, workbook and DVD. Participants support each other throughout the process with prayer and discussion, and no one is ever asked to disclose personal financial information. Materials are published by Our Sunday Visitor and will be available for preview. Parish leaders and Stewardship Committees interested in learning more, or hoping to bring the 7 Steps program to their parish are most welcome. Contact Jennifer Wemhoff to register, 563-391-8384 or olvrek6@qwestoffice.net.

Sunday, March 29, 2009, 1:00-2:30 PM

“What It Means to Be Financially Free”

Presenter: Phil Lenahan

Phil shares his expertise and personal experience in a real life presentation to help connect faith life with sound financial decisions. Discover how to set priorities and achieve financial goals that reflect Catholic beliefs. Great for all adults...whether nervous about the economy, stressed about managing money, or simply wanting to live smarter. An open event. All are welcome. If interested in learning more about the program or the author, check it out at www.veritasfinancialministries.com or www.osv.com.

EUCCHARISTIC CONGRESS

Sacrifice of Enduring Love will be held September 11-12 in Washington, DC. The Congress will draw participants to the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist, the source and summit of enduring love, the way of all communion between God and His people. Speakers will focus upon priesthood, religious life and marriage as: an irrevocable commitment; an identification with Christ in his submission to the Will of the Father; and a complete gift of self in love. Everyone is welcome and there is no admission fee. For information see www.cmswr.org.

SHALOM RETREAT CENTER, DUBUQUE

Celebrating 20 Years of Peace, Prayer & Hospitality! 1989 - 2009

563-582-359, www.shalomretreats.org

THE JOURNEYS OF PAUL: An Evening of Lenten Reflection

Tuesday, March 10, 7 – 9:00pm

Presenter: Rev. Robert Beck, Religious Studies Dept., Loras College

Next to Jesus, St. Paul is probably the most prominent person in the New Testament. In this season when we strive to renew our own journeys of faith, come to learn about and reflect on Paul's journeys over land and sea as he spread the message of Jesus, met many new friends, wrote letters, faced hardships, got arrested... all while his own faith and commitment to Jesus never wavered.

Offering: \$10. Register by Monday, March 9

Conversion . . . A Life Long Journey Retreat

Mar. 22, 5:30pm – Mar. 27, 4:00pm

Director: Don Bisson, FMS, D.MIN, pioneer in Jungian-Christian dialogue

Conversion is a lifelong process of change, transformation, risks, sufferings and joys. Reflect on the human path of individuation through aging, healing, and becoming one's true self. This journey leads us into union with God. Daily Eucharist.

Offering: \$425. Registration deadline: March 23.

A \$75 deposit secures your reservation and is credited to the offering for the retreat.

Spiritual Director Workshop: Remaining Vibrant in Their Service to Others

A workshop for those involved in spiritual direction.

Fri., Mar. 27, 7:00pm – Sat., Mar. 28, 4:00pm

Director: Don Bisson, FMS, D.MIN- Pioneer in Jungian-Christian dialogue

Spiritual directors witness and support the spiritual growth of the directees. How does the director continue to be formed in this ministry? What challenges continue for the director? What kind of quality supervision enhances their ministry? This workshop will focus on the psycho-spiritual growth of the spiritual director and in their ability to remain vibrant in this call of service to others.

Offering: Commuter (lunch only) - \$50; Overnight (breakfast & lunch): \$85

Registration deadline: March 26

To support the ministry of your parish, school and the diocese these groups automatically receive the *Mini-Messenger*:

Deacons

Diocesan Liturgical Commission

Priests

Diocesan Pastoral Council

Diocesan Corporate Board

Parishes

Principals

Seminarians

Youth Ministers

Parish Lay Directors

Diocesan Board of Education

Directors/Coordinators of Faith Formation

Pastoral Associates

Sisters

Bookkeepers

RCIA Parish Contacts

Other interested persons are welcome to subscribe. If you have questions regarding your subscription contact Laurie Hoefling, hoefling@davenportdiocese.org.

St. Ambrose Stewardship Institute
A collaborative initiative of St. Ambrose University,
the Diocese of Davenport, the Diocese of Des Moines
and the Archdiocese of Dubuque
2009

Purpose: The purpose of the St. Ambrose Stewardship Institute is to develop parish leaders who will promote stewardship within the Diocese of Davenport, the Diocese of Des Moines and the Archdiocese of Dubuque.

Methods: The Institute will use a variety of approaches to learning about stewardship. These include: sharing of ideas in person and by email; reading and writing occasional reflections about statements, articles and books about stewardship; reflecting weekly on Scripture; meeting face-to-face with a coach on a regular basis; meeting face-to-face with other participants and coaches at the beginning, middle and end of the Institute; and participating in efforts to infuse stewardship ministry into a parish. An alternative model that some participants can consider is the parish model, in which a small group in one parish (or one area) gets together on a weekly basis during both of the 8-week sessions of the Institute and shares the experience face-to-face.

Responsibilities: The responsibilities of the participants of the Stewardship Institute are: to read and reflect on weekly passages from Scripture; to read other materials from the books and reading lists; to share weekly reflections with a coach about the Scriptural passages and other readings; to meet at least once per month with a coach; to attend three face-to-face gatherings with other participants and coaches; to write a concluding personal reflection (once during both of the 8-week sessions) to a coach about the readings; to assess stewardship ministry in their parish and present the findings to their pastor; and to get involved in parish stewardship ministry.

Commitment: Participants will make a commitment to advance the ministry of stewardship in their parish.

Support: Support and encouragement will be provided by each of the diocesan offices and leaders of stewardship ministry in the three participating dioceses, by St. Ambrose University and by other participants and coaches of the Stewardship Institute.

Facilitator:

Dan R. Ebener, Director of Stewardship
Diocese of Davenport
563-324-1912, ext. 268
Ebener@davenportdiocese.org

Key contacts for the Institute include:

Msgr. Tom Toale, Archdiocese of Dubuque T.Toale@arch.pvt.k12.ia.us
Joan Bindel, Diocese of Des Moines JBindel@dmdiocese.org

Timeline for 2009

The 2009 Stewardship Institute will be organized into **two 8-week sessions** with a summer break between the two sessions. At the conclusion of each session, participants and coaches will be expected to submit an evaluation to Dan Ebener at: Ebener@davenportdiocese.org.

- The first 8-week session will begin on Easter Monday, **April 13**.
- The Opening Gathering of the Institute, which is a face-to-face, 2-hour workshop, will be held at a location central to each diocese at a date to be selected by each diocese.
- The first session will conclude after 8 weeks on Friday, **June 5**.
- Evaluations of the first session will be due on Friday, June 19.
- A summer break will run from June 20 to August 10. During this time, participants are expected to read a book on stewardship that is selected in consultation with their coach.
- The second 8-week session will begin officially on Monday, **August 10**.
- The Halftime Gathering of the Institute, which is a face-to-face, 2-hour workshop, will be held at a location central to each diocese at a date to be selected by each diocese.
- The second 8-week session will conclude on Friday, **October 2**.
- Evaluations of the second session will be due on Friday, October 16.
- Feedback and evaluations of the Stewardship Institute will be conducted via email from October 2 - October 16.
- Each diocese will hold some type of Concluding Event, such as a Stewardship Day, in October 2009. Discussions are underway about possibly holding a joint gathering to conclude the 2009 Institute.
- All graduates of the Stewardship Institute will receive certificates of graduation at the concluding event to be planned and scheduled in each participating diocese.

Session One

The emphasis for the first session will be on the spirituality and theology of stewardship.

- a. Opening Day: All participants and coaches are expected to attend the opening event in their diocese. It will include an explanation of the practical logistics of the Institute and instructions on the technology to be used. Each participant will be matched with a coach at Opening Day. Students and coaches clustered in certain geographic areas may schedule times to get together on a parish or regional basis during the Institute.

It is important that if you are signing up for the Institute, that you submit your email address to your diocesan coordinator or directly to Ebener@davenportdiocese.org