

**FEAST OF SAINT ROBERT BELLARMINE  
Patron Saint of Catechists**

Dear Catechetical Leaders,

This week's newsletter features several different items for the upcoming Year of Faith and early registration information for 2013 LA Religious Education Conference. There is also an article on Pope Benedict's recent trip to Lebanon, information about a new USCCB web page in Spanish and some free webinars.

Later this month, the Office of Catholic Faith Formation will be launching a new webpage to begin the process of updating the Archdiocesan K-8 Religion Curriculum. We will be inviting all parish catechists and Catholic school teachers to participate in a brief survey on our current curriculum and how we can make it more effective for you.

In Christ,

Anne

Anne Frederick, Ed.D.  
Director of Parish and School Faith Formation

**Help us launch our new Religious Education Web Page by completing this short survey on the current Religious Education Curriculum:**  
**[www.surveymonkey.com/s/K-8RECurrProj](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/K-8RECurrProj)**

## **Leadership Institute-2012 October Q&A Live – TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2**

The *second* 2012 *Leadership Institute Live Question & Answer Session* is scheduled for:  
October 2, 2012 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. [EDT]

Please click on the link to register:

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Oct2\\_LI\\_QandA](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Oct2_LI_QandA)...



Featured panelists and webinars:

October 2, 1-2 p.m. [E.T.]

- Rev. Kenneth Boyack, CSP  
[\*Engaging and Inviting Back Those Who Have Simply Slipped Away From Church Life and Sacraments\*](http://tiny.cc/pdkokw)
- Rev. Allan Deck, SJ, STD  
*Key Knowledge Attitudes and Skills for Evangelization of People from Diverse Cultures*
- Dr. Jem Sullivan, PhD  
[\*Living the Beauty of Faith: How to Use the Adult Catechism in Adult Faith Formation Programs\*](http://tiny.cc/ilkokw)
- Leland Nagel (Facilitator)

All the webinars can be found at the USCCB website under the [\*\*Leadership Institute – Track III: The New Evangelization\*\*](#)

**QUESTIONS:** Contact Michael Steier via email at: [leadershipinstitute@usccb.org](mailto:leadershipinstitute@usccb.org)  
The Leadership Institute is jointly sponsored by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, the National Conference for Catechetical Leadership, and the National Catholic Educational Association.



<https://exch7.seattlearch.org/owa/?ae=Item&a=Open&t=IPM.Note&id=RgA AAABs70NizVJCQZR1czxrrm5QBwDg5fo723SUQai5qeLNSy9AAAAB5UE PAADF4ftDNLCT66HHwfyg%2fDOAAILVAD1AAAJ>

### **National Hispanic Heritage Month \* En el Mes Nacional de la Herencia Hispana**



In *Mr. Mario's Reflections on Faith, Culture and Religion*, Mario J. Paredes, Presidential Liaison, Roman Catholic Ministries of the American Bible Society, shared the following thoughts.

Español: <http://mariojparedes.blogspot.com/2012/09/en-el-mes-nacional-de-la-herencia.html>

English: <http://mariojparedesen.blogspot.com/2012/09/national-hispanic-heritage-month.html>.

### **U.S. Bishops Launch Spanish-Language Page On Facebook**



The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), in an ongoing effort to more effectively reach Hispanic and Spanish-speaking Catholics, has launched a Spanish-language page on the social-networking site Facebook. The page, which can be found at [www.facebook.com/USCCBEspanol](http://www.facebook.com/USCCBEspanol), will feature a variety of updates from USCCB on news, issues of concern to the Catholic Church and faith-building resources. "Hispanics make up 16 percent of the total U.S. population, almost 40 percent of U.S. Catholics, and 50 percent of U.S. Catholics under age 25," said Bishop John Wester of Salt Lake City, chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Communications. "It is critically important to engage this demographic, especially through the expanding field of social media, and provide them with accurate, quality information that encourages them to grow in their faith."

In a video message posted in Spanish on the new page, Bishop Jaime Soto of Sacramento, California, chairman of USCCB's Committee on Cultural Diversity, said the bishops "are grateful for the rich contributions of culture and faith that Hispanics bring to this country and to



our Catholic Church," and invited them "in a spirit of faith and kindness" to use the new page to "communicate and dialogue with us."

Content posted to the page will include the essay "Cosas Ordinarias, amor extraordinario: Mother Teresa and Latin America" by *TIME Magazine* writer David Van Biema, which depicts Mother Teresa's missionary work from Tijuana, Mexico to Chile. The author describes her work with the poor and how the Missionaries of Charity are established in 65 cities in Latin America. Additionally, photos will show Mother Teresa in her early years helping the poor and sick, her connection to Our Lady of Guadalupe and

Shrine in Tijuana built in her name.

USCCB has moderated an English-language page on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/usccb](http://www.facebook.com/usccb) since 2009. It is currently "Liked" by over 40,000 people. USCCB also provides English and Spanish feeds on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/usccb> and <http://twitter.com/USCCBEspanol>. The launch of the page coincides with Hispanic Heritage Month. Concurrently, USCCB's Secretariat for Cultural Diversity announced new statistics that reflect the accelerated growth of Hispanic presence in dioceses and archdioceses nationwide. States including North Carolina, South Carolina, Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi and Tennessee have experienced over 100 percent growth over the last decade, according to the U.S. Census. The information is available online: [www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/cultural-diversity/hispanic-latino/demographics/](http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/cultural-diversity/hispanic-latino/demographics/)

### **Pope to Mideast Youth: Don't Taste 'Bitter Sweetness' of Emigration**



Before a vast and enthusiastic crowd of young people in Lebanon, Pope Benedict XVI voiced a strong appeal to end the emigration of Christians from the Holy Land, opposing the trend that has decimated the native Christian population of the region and that is expected to continue to diminish it. The Pope concluded his second day in Beirut with the youth encounter, offering his own reflections after listening attentively to presentations given by a young woman and a young man.

The Holy Father began by telling the Lebanese youth -- and their guests from Syria, the Holy Land, and other places of the region -- that it is a "great honor" to live in the part of the world that "witnessed the birth of Jesus and the growth of Christianity. It is also a summons to fidelity, to love of this region and, above all, to your calling to be witnesses and messengers of the joy of Christ."

The Bishop of Rome acknowledged the many difficulties that plague the region, such that young people face instability and lack of security, as well as unemployment. "But not even unemployment and uncertainty should lead you to taste the bitter sweetness of emigration, which involves an uprooting and a separation for the sake of an uncertain future," the Pope said. "You are meant to be protagonists of your country's future and to take your place in society and in the Church."

The Holy Father went on to offer some more practical tips, so that the "frustrations of the present moment" do not lead the youth to "take refuge in parallel worlds like those, for example, of the various narcotics or the bleak world of pornography." Regarding social networks, he said, "they are interesting but they can quite easily lead to addiction and confusion between the real and the virtual. Look for relationships of genuine, uplifting friendship. Find ways to give meaning and depth to your lives; fight superficiality and mindless consumption!" The Pontiff also warned of the "tyrannical idol" of money, "which blinds to the point of stifling the person at the heart." And he lamented that the "examples being held up all around you are not always the best."



Benedict XVI's address affirmed his hope for the future reflected in the youth, as he asked them to bring Christ's love to everyone. "Christ asks you, then, to do as he did: to be completely open to others, even if they belong to a different cultural, religious or national group," the Pontiff said. "[...] Experiencing together moments of friendship and joy enables us to resist the onset of division, which must always be rejected! Brotherhood is a foretaste of heaven! [...] Young people of Lebanon, you are the hope and the future of your country." The full text of the Pope's message can be found at [www.zenit.org/article-35539?l=english](http://www.zenit.org/article-35539?l=english).

### Vatican Hopes Apple Partnership Will Spread Pope's Message



The Vatican has teamed up with Apple to develop new hi-tech methods for communicating the works of Pope Benedict XVI to the world. "It represents an enormous step on the international stage because, as you know, internet goes beyond space and time," said Father Giuseppe Costa, the director of the Vatican's publishing house Libreria Editrice Vaticana. "The message of the Holy Father will now be received in every part of the world." The American technology firm will now work alongside the Vatican to produce eBooks and iTunes tracks of the Pope Benedict's weekly general audience.

In recent months the pontiff has used his weekly address to explore the theme of prayer in the story of salvation. His latest volume, "Prayer in the New Testament," is already available in print form. The new eBook format will be accompanied by illustrations from the Vatican's art collections. "The illustrations are of great value also in the electronic version as the reader can access the book as they like. They can zoom in and out to examine the images and compare them with the texts for their own personal meditation," Fr. Costa explained.



Initially the commercial agreement with Apple will only focus on the Pope's weekly catechesis. But the Vatican publishing house says that if this initial project proves popular, then more of



Pope Benedict XVI's extensive catalogue of writings could be offered electronically. Meanwhile, Fr. Costa promises that the new eBooks will be both "a beautiful art encyclopedia" and "a wonderful path of spirituality." With first editions already available in Italian, the U.S. bishops' conference is now collaborating with the Vatican to bring the same books to the world in English. You can read more at <http://www.patheos.com/blogs/yimcatholic/2012/09/coming-soon-to-itunes-pope-benedict-xvi.html>.

## **FREE Professional Development Webinar – Tuesday, September 25**



**Ave Maria Press**, in partnership with the **National Conference for Catechetical Leadership**, the National Association for Lay Ministry, and National Federation of Priests' Councils presents a series of free, online

workshops on professional development for parish ministers. This webinar, *Catholic Teaching on Homosexuality: New Paths to Understanding* is offered on Tuesday, September 25 at 3:00 pm EDT. You can register at



[https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/586157945?utm\\_source=Catholic+Teaching+on+Homosexuality+-+PMR+%5BMary%5D&utm\\_campaign=Catholic+Teaching+on+Homosexuality+-+PMR&utm\\_medium=email](https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/586157945?utm_source=Catholic+Teaching+on+Homosexuality+-+PMR+%5BMary%5D&utm_campaign=Catholic+Teaching+on+Homosexuality+-+PMR&utm_medium=email). For a complete listing of professional development webinars in this series please visit [www.avemariapress.com/webinars](http://www.avemariapress.com/webinars)

### **Catholic Teaching on Homosexuality: New Paths to Understanding**



Rev. Louis J. Cameli, nationally renowned pastoral leader and priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago, will explore the cultural, ecclesial, and pastoral context within which he wrote his recently published book, "Catholic Teaching on Homosexuality." The webinar will introduce participants to the topics of the book as

well as extend the conversation for those participants who already have some familiarity with it. The webinar's question and comment component will provide participants with opportunities to raise questions, seek clarifications, or offer alternate perspectives. You can order [\*Catholic Teaching on Homosexuality: New Paths to Understanding\*](#).



**Archdiocese of Seattle Year of Faith page: [www.seattlearchdiocese.org/yof](http://www.seattlearchdiocese.org/yof)**

**Year of Faith Resources from the Knights of Columbus: *Fathers for Good***



**FATHERS FOR GOOD**  
AN INITIATIVE FOR MEN BY THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The following resources are offered on the Fathers for Good website which is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.

**YEAR OF FAITH PRIMER** ([http://www.fathersforgood.org/ffg/en/big\\_four/yof\\_primer.html](http://www.fathersforgood.org/ffg/en/big_four/yof_primer.html))

- Find out what people are doing to live more faithfully and add your own ideas.

**YOUNG AND CATHOLIC**

([http://www.fathersforgood.org/ffg/en/big\\_four/catholic\\_professionals.html](http://www.fathersforgood.org/ffg/en/big_four/catholic_professionals.html)) - A vibrant group of young professionals is helping the next generation keep the faith.

**THEOLOGY FOR THE FAMILY**

([http://www.fathersforgood.org/ffg/en/husband\\_wife/archive/theology.html](http://www.fathersforgood.org/ffg/en/husband_wife/archive/theology.html)) - Father of three and theologian Jeff Morrow explains how to make God a reality in everyday life.

**How Will This Year of Faith Transform Your Parish Community?**

**What if our efforts focused on supporting parents in living out what our Church teaches – that *they* are the most influential agents of catechesis for their children?**

Three national Catholic organizations, NACFLM, NCCL and NFCYM, have collaborated together to offer two training options that seek to enhance the partnership between parishes/schools and parents to transmit the Catholic faith within the family:



**Cultivating a Home Grown Faith** – a six hour in-service for church leaders and volunteers which presents a blue-print to assist in building a vital partnership between the Domestic and Institutional Church in order to support families to grow a lasting and sustained faith. Drawing on Church documents, current research, and proven techniques, leaders will leave with practical tools to listen, educate and empower families to

recognize and celebrate their holiness through the family life cycle.

**Strong Catholic Families: Strong Catholic Youth** – A three part training process hosted by dioceses to help bring about a long-term change in the way parishes/schools partner with parents in passing on the faith. The *Strong Catholic Families: Strong Catholic Youth* initiative and resources are designed to motivate parents to take responsibility for the faith development of their children, and to motivate parishes/schools to support and equip parents and families in passing the faith to their children.

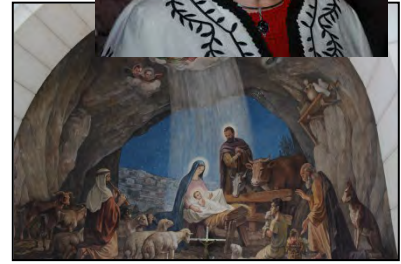


For more information contact Michael Theisen ([miket@nfcym.org](mailto:miket@nfcym.org)) or Linda Moses ([lmoses@holyfamychurch.net](mailto:lmoses@holyfamychurch.net))

**Women of Valor: Experiencing the Holy Land Through its Heroines of Faith**

*A Year of Faith Pilgrimage*

Join other men and women of faith to celebrate, pray and learn about “Women of Valor” as you experience the Holy Land through its “Heroines of Faith” on a pilgrimage to The Holy Land hosted by Anne Comeaux. The pilgrimage, presented by Faith Journeys, will be from June 4-14, 2013. In addition to visiting the holy sites, we will have brief catechetical sessions, communal prayer and gain insights into Ruth, our Blessed



Mother, Deborah and other women of Scripture. For information contact: Anne Comeaux at 713-582-9935 or call Faith Journeys directly at 877-732-4845, ext. 100. A \$200.00 deposit will reserve your space.



## USCCB Resources to Assist in Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship



In a memo from Peter J. Murphy, Executive Director of the USCCB Secretariat of Evangelization and Catechesis, he wrote of the necessity of our Catholic community of faith “to respond to God’s call to bring our convictions into the public square, to build a world that is more respectful of the life and dignity of every human person and to create an environment that is more fully committed to family, justice, solidarity and peace.” In addition to the document *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*, USCCB has prepared additional resources for principals, teachers, catechists and parents. You are encouraged to share this information with your catechists and parishioners and take advantage of these free resources “in forming their consciences to be faithful citizens.”

During election season, you will inevitably be asked questions about the Church’s role in political life. To prepare you for such questions and to help Catholics form their consciences, the Catholic bishops have made available dozens of resources at [www.faithfulcitizenship.org](http://www.faithfulcitizenship.org), including:

- The text of the statement, [\*Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship\*](#), which the bishops describe as “our teaching document on the political responsibility of Catholics.”
- [Do’s and Don’ts Political Responsibility Guidelines](#) and [Tips for Conducting Candidate Forums](#) to help you understand legal restrictions for non-profit institutions.
- Lesson plans for [elementary](#) and [high school](#) students, and for [parents](#).
- [Learning activities](#) and [games](#).
- Simple, two-page handouts on important topics such as [Conscience Formation](#), [Civil Dialogue](#), [Contacting Your Elected Officials](#) and [Catholics Care, Catholics Vote](#).
- [Videos](#) on conscience formation, civil dialogue, life issues, poverty, immigration and other issues, including a [video on the call to participate from Cardinal Dolan](#), President of the USCCB.



There are many additional helpful resources in the “[Parishes and Schools](#)” section of [www.faithfulcitizenship.org](http://www.faithfulcitizenship.org). The majority of these resources are also available in Spanish.

You may also find it helpful to purchase a copy of the [\*Parish Guide to Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship\*](#), which contains a timeline for educating about faithful citizenship in a parish or parish school setting, as well as many of the resources above.





## *Getting the Marriage Conversation Right*

*How To Have Effective Dialogue with Family & Friends  
about Referendum 74*

Friday, September 21st  
7:00 – 9:00 pm  
St. Mary Magdalen Church  
8517 7th Ave. SE, Everett

Saturday, September 22nd  
10:00 am – 12:00 pm  
St. Charles Borromeo Parish Center  
7112 S 12th St., Tacoma

*Presented by Bill May, Catholics for the Common Good*



William B. May is founder, chairman, and CEO of *Catholics for the Common Good*, a lay apostolate for the evangelization of culture. He is a sought after speaker on marriage, family, culture, and the imperative of regaining the offense to promote the centrality and integrity of marriage for children and society. He has appeared on Good Morning America, ABC, CBS, NBC, PBS, BBC, Fox News Channel, CNN, EWTN Radio, Immaculate Heart Radio, the Catholic Channel, and many other programs. He and his wife Nancy have three children.

*RSVP Suggested by September 19th  
[ocff@seattlearch.org](mailto:ocff@seattlearch.org); 206-382-4096*

Washington State Catholic Conference • Archdiocese of Seattle  
710 Ninth Avenue • Seattle, WA 98104

## **In Thirty Years: Need for Community Will Still Be Here**



USA TODAY celebrated its 30th anniversary on Friday and they interviewed some of the USA's greatest visionaries to talk about the world of tomorrow: How we'll live, learn and travel, what we'll do and who we'll be. In an article entitled *Longer Lives, Later Families and Greater Diversity*, William Frey, senior fellow at the Brookings Institution in Washington was interviewed.

Here is a short excerpt that indicates the call to community will still be important and we as a church will need to continue to evangelize but perhaps use some of what we learn in this call for the new evangelization.

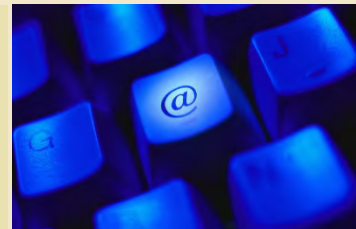
What won't change: "People will still value something like traditional family," he says. "It may take different forms, but it's something people will aspire to."...The need for family extends to a need for community, whether it's a city neighborhood, a suburban cul-de-sac or a social networking website, he says.

You can read the entire article at

<http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/story/2012/09/13/longer-lives-later-families-and-greater-diversity/57778068/1>.



## **Introducing... The 2012-13 Webinar Series**



How can you participate in great ministry training when your time and your budget are limited? The CMD live webinar series is the solution. You will receive CMD's world-class ministry training on a variety of topics while you interact with other ministry professionals and volunteers from around the world without leaving the comfort of your office or home.

All of the topics for this series were chosen after we surveyed you on your greatest ministry training needs. Here's what you asked for...

## Topics

September 20 - 2:00 PM Eastern Time

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### ***Parenting Treasures: Practical Ways for Parents to Share Faith at Home***

**Jim Merhaut**

One-hour live webinar: \$25

[Click Here](#) for more information and/or to register.

October 24 - 2:00 PM Eastern Time

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### ***Five High-impact Programs that Really Work for Youth Ministry***

**Cheryl Tholcke**

One-hour live webinar: \$25

[Click Here](#) for more information and/or to register.

November 6 - 2:00 PM Eastern Time

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### ***Engaging Families in Service***

**Jane Angha**

One-hour live webinar: \$25

[Click Here](#) for more information and/or to register.

## Presenters

Click on any of the presenters to view a brief bio.



Jane Angha



Tom East



Jim Merhaut



December 4 - 2:00 PM Eastern Time

***Sharing Faith Messages with Youth that Stick***

**Tom East**

One-hour live webinar: \$25

[Click Here](#) for more information and/or to register.

January 16 - 2:00 PM Eastern Time

***Evangelizing Today's Young Adults***

**Joan Weber**

One-hour live webinar: \$25

[Click Here](#) for more information and/or to register.

February 12 - 2:00 PM Eastern Time

***Planning Youth Retreats that Transform Lives***

**Tom East**

One-hour live webinar: \$25

[Click Here](#) for more information and/or to register.

March 6 - 2:00 PM Eastern Time



Cheryl Tholcke



Joan Weber

**All webinars will include the following:**

- Sixty minutes of professional training with an opportunity to comment and/or question
- Technical support
- Downloadable handouts
- Downloadable webinar slides
- Access to a recording of the webinar after it concludes

**Webinars are a flexible ministry training option:**

Experience world-class



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***Lifelong Faith Formation Across the Four Settings***

**Joan Weber**

One-hour live webinar: \$25

[Click Here](#) for more information and/or to register.

April 4 - 2:00 PM Eastern Time

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***Teaching for Discipleship***

**Jane Angha**

One-hour live webinar: \$25

[Click Here](#) for more information and/or to register.

May 15 - 2:00 PM Eastern Time

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***Emerging Models for Connecting with 21st Century Families***

**Jim Merhaut**

One-hour live webinar: \$25

[Click Here](#) for more information and/or to register.

June 5 - 2:00 PM Eastern Time

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***Collaboration Among Parish Ministries***

**Jane Angha**

ministry training in the comfort of your office, home, or anywhere you can access high-speed internet.



One-hour live webinar: \$25

[Click Here](#) for more information and/or to register.

**Save  
\$25-\$50**

-Purchase any four webinars and receive the fifth one free (\$25 savings).

-Purchase the entire series of ten webinars for the price of eight (\$50 savings).

This webinar discount coupon can only be redeemed by registering for the webinars by calling 1-888-723-2433 or by sending an email indicating your webinar preferences to [info@cmdnet.org](mailto:info@cmdnet.org).

Never before has ministry training been so affordable. Don't miss this opportunity to sharpen your ministry skills.



OSVParish.com

## ALIVE IN CHRIST

***Alive in Christ*** will be ready for review in January so you can plan accordingly. In the meantime, I invite you to imagine the possibilities of ***Alive in Christ*** by viewing this [video](#).

Our goal in developing ***Alive in Christ*** is excellence. Each lesson begins with God's personal invitation to relationship through reflection on his word. The developmentally appropriate lessons present effective learning strategies that engage children and their families. ***Alive in Christ*** weaves Scripture, doctrine, prayer, and life connections to engage children in the process of learning, loving, and celebrating our Catholic faith!

***Alive in Christ*** is the perfect capstone to Our Sunday Visitor's celebration of 100 years serving Catholic parishes, schools, dioceses, and other organizations through our products and services. Please continue to keep us in your prayers as we rededicate ourselves to serving you and your diocesan and parish communities with passion and creativity in our second century.