

Dear Catechetical Colleagues,

As we celebrate Veterans Day, we are also mindful of the great tragedy facing people from the Philippines in the wake of **typhoon Haiyan**. Please keep both our military and all those suffering in the wake of this natural disaster in our prayers. **For those of you wishing to assist Catholic Relief Services with a donations**, please contact our Archdiocesan Missions Office at:

<http://www.seattlearchdiocese.org/Missions/EducationResources/Emergencies.aspx>

The **Missions Office** also offers other materials that support our ministries and formation endeavors. Please check out the following two resources:

1. **The Year of Faith is coming to An End, but the free Monthly Resources aren't!**  
We hope these resources have been a valuable tool for your ministry. The November resource, *"Becoming Bread for Others": Passing on the Faith*, is included in this newsletter. If you'd like to directly receive free resources from JustFaith Ministries, we invite you to sign up for the monthly email, which is full of resources for spirituality and social ministry. Sign up here today: [eepurl.com/EGBhv](http://eepurl.com/EGBhv).
2. **Face the Fast. Change the World. CRS Food Fast** is a 24-hour hunger awareness retreat for Catholic youth! By spending 24 hours in the shoes of people who go hungry, Catholic youth deepen their faith and strengthen their yearning to bring change to our world. Through simulations, prayers, and reflections, participants in Food Fast will experience what a day without food is like while learning about how together we can make a big difference in communities around the world. Plan a fast today! Please see the flyer included in this newsletter, and visit [www.foodfast.org](http://www.foodfast.org).

Are you interested in pursuing a **graduate degree** to deepen your role as a lay minister for the Church? If so, **now is the time to contact the Office of Catholic Faith Formation for information about the *Christifideles* program**, which offers scholarships and other resources to those seeking to deepen their education for Church service.

**A very exciting new online resource through the Office of Young Adult Ministry began this month through their social media pages.** Each week they will be taking questions from young adults and several priests will take turns answering these questions via video. Although targeted to young adults, it is hoped that this resource provides fruit for all your ministries.

Last week, I had the privilege of attending the **National Catholic Partnership on Disabilities** Conference with Erica Cohen-Moore, Director of Pastoral Care and Philip Tran, Director of Multicultural Communities for the Archdiocese. The event was filled with rich resources, many of which are now included in our Library Media Center. More information about some of these new materials is also described further down in this newsletter.

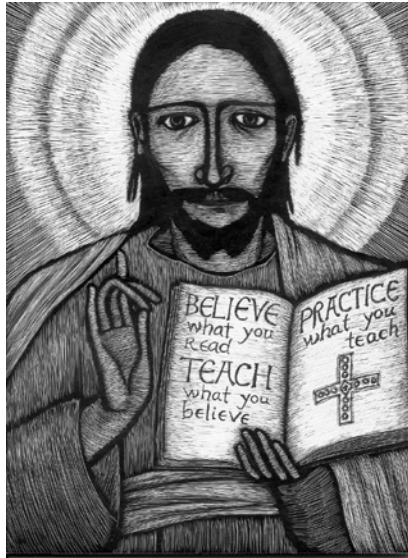
Once again, we are blessed to have many free webinars and resources you can download. Please do scroll through the newsletter to check out the wonderful materials that can be used both with those we serve and to enrich our skills as well!

In Christ,

Anne

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

# FOUNDATIONS OF OUR CATHOLIC FAITH CATECHIST CERTIFICATION PROGRAM



## ADULT FAITH FORMATION

- ✚ Advent
- ✚ Lent
- ✚ Retreats

## CATECHIST CERTIFICATION

- ✚ Faith Formation for Parish Staff
- ✚ For Competent, Confident, and **Capable** Catechists
  - Certify at least one per grade level
  - Identify & Prepare Next Year's Catechist
- ✚ RCIA team
  - Identify & Prepare Next Year's Team

**SCHEDULE AND REGISTRATION** at [www.seattlearchdiocese.org/ccp](http://www.seattlearchdiocese.org/ccp)



Year of Faith Resource  
November 2013

## REFLECTION

# “Becoming Bread for Others”: Passing on the Faith

by Joe Grant, JustFaith Ministries Staff

*“...we all have to proclaim and bear witness to the Gospel. We should all ask ourselves: How do I bear witness to Christ through my faith? Do I have the courage of Peter and the other Apostles, to think, to choose and to live as a Christian, obedient to God?” —Pope Francis, April 15, 2013*

Have you ever been really hungry?

When I arrived in Brazil as a young missionary, things didn't go according to plan. Since I had missed my connection, I spent my first days stranded in an Amazonian airport. I had no money and didn't yet speak the language. Time and again as I tried to negotiate a seat on the next outbound flight, I failed miserably. I had nothing to eat, no one wanted to deal with me, and I could see no way out of my predicament. Finally, a woman tentatively asked—in broken English—if I was hungry. And in my relief, I wept. Almost twenty-five years later, I can still recall the taste of the bread we shared. To this day, I cannot pass by another human being who is hungry or stranded on the sidelines of life.

*“Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink?’” —Matthew 25:37*

Looking back at the colorful history of Christianity, it is easy to point out the mistakes our forebears made. Our Church is, after all, a human community striving to be the living body of Christ in our time. But, when we examine our faith family more closely, we can also see an unbroken line of faith-filled people and communities inspired to bring God's love to life in the form of schools, hospitals, clinics, shelters, and outreach ministries of every kind. There is much good news in the story of our faith. Just imagine what this nation would look like without the legacy of the myriad ministries inspired and supported by the Catholic Church. Consider the outreach, small and great, taking place every day in your own neighborhood, parish, or diocese. We all spread the faith, the Good News of Jesus, when we become the Gospel in the flesh—bread for any who are hungry for food or friendship, for healing or for hope. So, in the face of poverty, hunger, violence, and destruction, we bear Good News of hope and forgiveness embodied in a world-wide community of faith, dedicated to upholding the sanctity of all life.

## IN THIS RESOURCE:

**Reflection:** Becoming Bread for Others

Scripture for Pondering

Prayer Resources

Year of Faith Actions for November

Quotes of Note



## OPENING THE DOOR TO THE YEAR OF FAITH

“Intent on gathering the signs of the times in the present of history, faith commits every one of us to become a living sign of the presence of the Risen Lord in the world. What the world is in particular need of today is the credible witness of people enlightened in mind and heart by the word of the Lord, and capable of opening the hearts and minds of many to the desire for God and for true life, life without end.”

—Pope Benedict XVI,  
*Porta Fidei* (#15)

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*"Jesus' three questions to Peter about love are followed by three commands: feed my lambs, feed my sheep. Let us never forget that authentic power is service..."* —Pope Francis, February 19, 2013

Life-giving faith feeds a loving community. Each Sunday, when we are fed around the Eucharistic table, we are also reminded that this feast is not for us alone. We are sent out to be bread for others by caring, by connecting, by touching everyone within our arms' reach, with compassion and forgiveness. A vibrant parish brings life by bearing witness to love and forgiveness in personal and in public ways. With the Holy Spirit to guide and strengthen us, we live out the values we preach as we seek to reshape this world according to God's blueprint—a Reign of Peace and Justice.

*"The presence of the Risen Lord in the midst of his people becomes an undertaking of solidarity, a compelling force for inner renewal, an inspiration to change the structures of sin in which individuals, communities and at times entire peoples are entangled."* —Pope John Paul II, Dies Domini #73

Being bread for others means sharing the three graces of faith, hope, and love—freely gifted to us by the Holy Spirit—with our neighbors near and far. So, wherever there is disaster, you will find us. When calamity strikes, a ministry is born. Where people sit on the sidelines, aching for food or friendship, we refuse to pass them by. No matter what the future holds, Christ will continue to listen, love, touch, and feed God's people through people like us. This is how the Bread of Life becomes really present to those who are hungry. And this is how our Catholic faith comes to life.

*"And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love."*  
—1 Corinthians 13:13

**Questions for reflection and discussion:**

*"Do you wish to honor the Body of Christ? Do not ignore him when he is naked."* —St. John Chrysostom

- Where in your life do you encounter hunger in any of its aspects?
- What ministries in your community are dedicated to addressing the hungers of God's people in need?
- How is your family involved in the works of mercy, outreach, and service in your local area?
- What needs, hungers, or people are being overlooked or underserved by your church community?
- How has this Year of Faith opened new doors to understanding and living out your faith in real and practical ways?

**QUOTES OF NOTE**

"...every day we must let Christ transform us and make us like him; it means trying to live as Christians, trying to follow him, even if we see our limitations and weaknesses."

—Pope Francis, April 10, 2013

"Consumerism and a 'culture of waste' have led some of us to tolerate the waste of precious resources, including food, while others are literally wasting away from hunger. I ask all of you to reflect on this grave ethical problem in a spirit of solidarity grounded in our common responsibility for the earth and for all our brothers and sisters in the human family."

—Pope Francis, June 5, 2013

**SCRIPTURE  
FOR PONDERING**

Mark 6:34-37

*"As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things. When it grew late, his disciples came to him and said, 'This is a deserted place, and the hour is now very late; send them away so that they may go into the surrounding country and villages and buy something for themselves to eat.' But he answered them, 'You give them something to eat.'"*

***The Year Of Faith  
Is Coming to an End,  
But the Free Monthly Resources Aren't!***

We hope these resources have been a valuable tool for your ministry. If you'd like to continue receiving free resources from JustFaith Ministries, we invite you to sign up for our monthly email, which is full of resources for spirituality and social ministry.

**Sign up here today: [eepurl.com/EGBhv](http://eepurl.com/EGBhv)**

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## PRAYER

### *May I Hunger Enough*

*Lord, let me hunger enough that I  
not forget the world's hunger.*

*Lord, let me hunger enough that I  
may have bread to share.*

*Lord, let me hunger enough that I  
may long for the Bread of Heaven.*

*Lord, let me hunger enough that I  
may be filled.*

*But, O Lord, let me not hunger so much  
that I seek after that which is not bread,  
nor try to live by bread alone. Amen.*

From [Banquet of Praise](#) (Bread for the World: [www.bread.org](http://www.bread.org))

Reflect on this image as you consider the prompts below.

## PRAYER STARTER WE ARE BREAD FOR OTHERS



### Prompt:

Be gentle...when you touch bread.  
Let it not lie...uncared for, unwanted.  
So often...bread is taken for granted.  
There is such beauty in bread;  
beauty of sun and soil,  
beauty of patient toil.  
Wind and sun have caressed it.  
Christ often blessed it.  
Be gentle...when you touch bread.

*As you look at  
the world of need  
around you, what  
are you hungry for  
most in this life?*

## BE BREAD

Year of Faith  
Actions for  
the Month  
of November:

*"I encourage everyone to reflect on the problem of thrown away and wasted food to identify ways and means that, by seriously addressing this issue, are a vehicle of solidarity and sharing with the needy, ... When food is shared in a fair way, with solidarity, when no one is deprived, every community can meet the needs of the poorest."*

—Pope Francis, June 5, 2013

**Consider any of these opportunities for your parish community to become bread for others:**

### *For Children: Bread of Life Boxes*

As the season of thanksgiving approaches, invite each of the children's classes to decorate a box or basket to hold dried and canned foods. Attach this scripture to the boxes: *"I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry..."* (John 6:35).

Throughout the month of November, ask families to bring canned or dried foods to fill the boxes. At the end of the month, include the Bread of Life boxes in the Sunday offertory procession so they might be blessed before donating the food to a local shelter, food bank, or community kitchen. If possible, ask families to assist with the donation or distribution of the food.

Continued

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We'd *love*  
your feedback

on our  
Year of Faith  
resources!

Please fill out  
our brief survey at:  
[www.surveymonkey.com/s/  
YOFresources](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/YOFresources)

*Thank you.*

JustFaith Ministries offers  
a wide selection of resources  
for parishes, including  
webinars, workshops, and  
parish-based programs.  
Check out the latest,  
including an events calendar,  
at [justfaith.org](http://justfaith.org)!

#### *For Youth Ministry and Confirmation: Catholics Care!*

Contact your diocesan representatives for Catholic Charities, Catholic Relief Services and Catholic Campaign for Human Development. Request a speaker who can address Confirmation and Youth Ministry groups about the incredible work of any of these organizations. Invite young people to consider how they and their families can make a connection with the outreach of caring Catholic organizations locally and across the world. Visit each of these organizations online to explore the programs and resources they offer:

[www.catholiccharitiesusa.org](http://www.catholiccharitiesusa.org)

[www.usccb.org/about/catholic-campaign-for-human-development](http://www.usccb.org/about/catholic-campaign-for-human-development)  
[crs.org](http://crs.org)

#### *For Families: Give Thanks and Make Space*

Copy the Hunger Prayer (above) by Bread for the World and make it available to families to use as a meal blessing when they gather around the table at Thanksgiving. Include information about Bread for the World: [www.bread.org](http://www.bread.org). Encourage families to leave an empty plate or space at the table as a visible reminder of the prevalence of hunger in our world.

#### *For the Whole Community: Bread for the Journey*

Give thanks for the Year of Faith, which comes to a close this month. Invite parish staff and/or planning teams and committees to discuss how your community will continue to deepen faith and engagement in response to the call for a New Evangelization.

Consider these two opportunities for your whole parish to stay committed to the life-long journey of discipleship:

- *Become a Bread for the World Covenant Church*

Bread for the World is an ecumenical Christian organization dedicated to ending hunger in our nation and beyond. Visit [www.bread.org](http://www.bread.org) to find out more about how your parish can become involved.

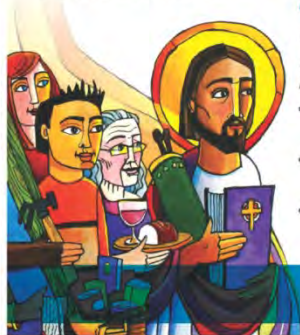
- *Become a Good News People Parish*

Register your parish for the Good News People program. To find out more about this incredible way to live out the call for a New Evangelization visit the JustFaith Ministries website:

[www.goodnewspeople-jfm.org](http://www.goodnewspeople-jfm.org)

### *Good News People*

Faith, Hope, and Love in Action



*The New Evangelization calls us to inward and outward renewal, to deeper faith and understanding within our parish communities, to reveal God's love through our words and deeds...to bring good news to a world in need...*

*The GoodNewsPeople program is a parish-wide process that helps answer the call of the New Evangelization. It provides a path for parishes to grow both inwardly and outwardly. Deeper Faith + Love in Action = Good News!*

- Learn more:  
[www.goodnewspeople-jfm.org](http://www.goodnewspeople-jfm.org)
- Request an information packet:  
[www.goodnewspeople-jfm.org/learn-more](http://www.goodnewspeople-jfm.org/learn-more)
- See a short video:  
[www.goodnewspeople-jfm.org/good-news-people-video](http://www.goodnewspeople-jfm.org/good-news-people-video)

[goodnewspeople-jfm.org/register-now](http://goodnewspeople-jfm.org/register-now)

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THE DYNAMICS OF HOPE Communion Being Holy  
with God WALKING  
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## FOODFAST

### Face the Fast. Change the World.

**Catholic Relief Services' Food Fast** is a 24-hour hunger awareness retreat for Catholic youth. By spending 24 hours in the shoes of people who go hungry, Catholic youth deepen their faith and strengthen their yearning to bring change to our world!

New this year – CRS Food Fast offers a variety of retreat themes, including:

[Climate Change](#) // [Hunger & Food Security](#) // [Microfinance & Water](#)

#### Why Food Fast?

Using examples of CRS' programs around the world, youth will learn how communities go from facing severe hunger to being food secure – having regular and reliable access to food. Through simulations, prayers, and reflections, participants in Food Fast will experience what a day without food is like while learning about how together we can make a big difference in communities around the world.

#### How does CRS Food Fast define fasting?

CRS' Food Fast invites communities to determine what it means to them to fast and "go hungry" for 24-hours. Our Catholic faith has a rich tradition of fasting to draw from. Some communities will define fasting as abstaining from everything but water or juice. Other communities will fast by only providing simple meals to participants.

#### Are there abbreviated schedules?

Yes! The CRS' Food Fast [Coordinator's Manual](#) offers sample schedules for an abbreviated CRS' Food Fast: 8 hour, 10 hour, and 24 hour schedules. The Coordinator's Manual also includes a sample retreat schedule for schools.

#### Are any materials available in Spanish?

Yes! The Hunger & Food Security theme and a accompanying Coordinator's Manual is available in Spanish.

#### Need more help?

If you are in need of any additional assistance, or if you'd like to hear best practices or provide feedback, please contact the CRS Food Fast staff ([foodfast@crs.org](mailto:foodfast@crs.org) or 866-608-5978). They are always eager to hear from Food Fast communities! In the Seattle archdiocese, the [Missions Office](#) is available for local resourcing, including speakers and referrals to parish youth ministers with "best practices."

Our *thanks* to all those in the Seattle archdiocese who participated in the CRS Food Fast program this past year! If your parish or school has not used the (free) materials before, please contact us in the Missions Office, and/or visit [www.foodfast.org](http://www.foodfast.org) where you can view/download all the (did we say "FREE"?!) materials. This is a photo of this year's fair trade gift item (from a cooperative in India). If you are a parish youth minister who did not get one of these at the OYYAE gathering on September 12, let us know – we *might* have an extra one....







## *Called to serve as a minister?*

- Receive formation from the Archdiocese of Seattle
- Study with outstanding faculty
- Serve the local Church
- Earn a graduate degree and Archdiocesan certification
- May receive scholarship support

*Christifideles* is a program of graduate education and formation for Lay Ecclesial Ministers of the Archdiocese of Seattle, in collaboration with Seattle University and University of Portland.

### INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS:

11/9/13	10:30 am - 12:00 pm
	Our Lady of Lourdes, Vancouver
11/23/13	10:30 am - 12:00 pm
	Seattle University Campus
1/4/14	10:30 am - 12:00 pm
	Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Everett
1/18/14	10:30 am - 12:00 pm
	Seattle University Campus

RSVP: 206-382-4096

ARCHDIOCESE OF SEATTLE • Office of Catholic Faith Formation • 710 9th Avenue • Seattle, WA 98104

**THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SEATTLE**  
**presents**

# **According to Father**

**DON'T MISS YOUR CHANCE TO ASK THESE PRIESTS ANYTHING!**

**Starting in NOVEMBER: Once a week, a priest will answer your questions about the faith via video.**

**Submit your questions by:**

- Commenting on any post with this logo at [facebook.com/wwcatholicyoungadults](http://facebook.com/wwcatholicyoungadults)
- Tweeting to @CatholicYASEA #AccordingtoFather
- email your question to [bridgeth@seattlearch.org](mailto:bridgeth@seattlearch.org)

Please encourage your young adults to submit their questions via social media in one of the following ways:

- Facebook by posting in <http://www.facebook.com/wwcatholicyoungadults>
- Twitter by sending to @catholicyasea #accordingtofather
- Email to [bridgeth@seattlearch.org](mailto:bridgeth@seattlearch.org) or [catholicyasea@gmail.com](mailto:catholicyasea@gmail.com)

Each week the questions will be answered via YouTube and shared on the above social networks. If you have any questions, suggestions or would like this resource emailed to you monthly, please contact Bridget Harris at [bridgeth@seattlearch.org](mailto:bridgeth@seattlearch.org) or 206.382.2010.



## **Black Catholic History Month**



On July 24, 1990, the National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus of the United States designated November as Black Catholic History Month to celebrate the long history and proud heritage of Black Catholics. Two commemorative dates fall within this month, Saint Augustine's Birthday (November 13) and Saint Martin de Porres' Feast Day (November 3). More importantly, November not only marks a time when we pray for all saints and souls in loving remembrance, but also a time to recall the saints and souls of Africa and the African Diaspora.

Some people forget that Christianity did not originate in Europe and even express surprise when they learn that Black Catholic History began in the Acts of the Apostles (8: 26-40) with the conversion of the Ethiopian Eunuch by Philip the Deacon. This text is important for several reasons. First, it chronicles the conversion of the first Black African in recorded Christian history. Second, the text suggests that the man was a wealthy, literate, and powerful emissary of the Nubian Queen and also a faithful, practicing Jew prior to his baptism. Clearly, he was not an ignorant heathen. Third, the Ethiopian Eunuch's conversion predates the conversions of Saints Paul and Cornelius. Most significantly, many cite this conversion as the very moment when the church changed from a Hebrew and Hellenist community to the truly Universal and Catholic Church.



Black Catholics trace their faith history back to Christian antiquity long before other nations heard the "Good News." Christian Africa was indeed a "leading light" in early Christendom. Black Catholics point to three popes who were born in Africa: Saints Victor I, Melchiades, and Gelasius I. All three shepherded the early church through tough and tumultuous times in history. Black Catholics claim many Black Saints like Saints Cyprian, Zeno, Anthony of Egypt, Moses the Black, Pachomius, Maurice, Athanasius, Pistentius, Mary of Egypt, Cyril of Alexandria, Monica of Hippo, Augustine of Hippo, Perpetua, Felicitas, and Thecla. Some of these mystics, monastics, and, martyrs literally made the church what it is today.



For more information, please go to [Black Catholic History Month](#). For more <http://www.nbccongress.org/default.asp> information about Black Catholic History, please read, [\*The History of Black Catholics in the United States\*](#) by Cyprian Davis. You can also check out [National Black Catholic Congress](#), as well as a sampling of those who help form the heritage of [Black Catholics](#).





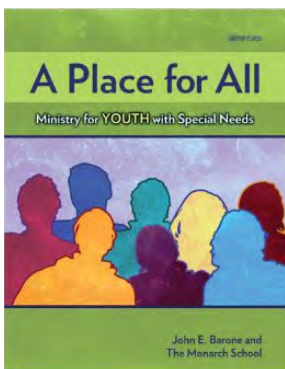
The Archdiocesan Library Media Center has recently purchased a series of DVD's from NCPD covering topics, such as catechesis and disabilities, liturgical access and mental illness. Please contact Lisa Hillyard or check out <http://www.seattlearchdiocese.org/Library/Catalog.aspx> for more information.

### [A Confirmation Preparation Program in American Sign Language](#)



*Strengthened in Faith: Confirmation* is an ideal program that was created for the Catholic Deaf community, but can be used with individuals who use English as a second language, visual learners, and all learners. Each of the twelve (12) video lessons engages the viewer into the life of a saint, the theological concepts and a specific aspect of the Confirmation Rite in a creative, fresh and memorable way. In this vlog, [Strengthened in Faith](#), Fr. MD discusses a new DVD that teaches deaf teenagers about the Sacrament of Confirmation. Anyone who wants to deepen their Catholic faith will likewise benefit from this valuable resource. The program is available through *Our Sunday Visitor*.

### [A Place for All: Approaches and Strategies](#)



John Barone conducted an excellent workshop on methodology that is featured in his book [A Place for All: Ministry for Youth with Special Needs](#). I highly recommend this book for all catechists as well as parents. Barone offers wonderful tips on developmental intervention and discusses how the power struggle can be kept at a minimum. He presented the difference between actions that fall in the Developmental Frame and those that fall under the Character Frame. Interestingly enough when a behavior is chronic, it is usually developmental but our reactions are not. These are the Executive Functions he addresses.

- Initiate
- Inhibit
- Shift

- Plan
- Organize
- Self-Monitor
- Emotional Control
- Working Memory

## **The Sacraments Drive Us To Be Missionaries**



In the continuing catechesis on the Creed, Pope Francis reflected on “the communion of saints” as a communion not only of persons but also of spiritual goods. “Through our sharing in those goods, we grow in communion with Christ and with the members of his body, the Church.” He considered three of these spiritual treasures: the sacraments, charisms and charity. “In the sacraments”, he continued, “we encounter Christ in all his saving power, are confirmed in the joy of faith, and sent forth to share with others the joy of salvation.”

Pope Francis addressed the second spiritual treasure, “Through the variety of charisms, the spiritual gifts and graces bestowed by the Holy Spirit, we help to build up the Church in unity, holiness and service.” The Pontiff believes “In charity, all these spiritual gifts find their fulfilment; everything is ordered to our growth in God’s love.” It was the Pope’s desire that we “ask the Lord to increase our communion in these spiritual goods, so that we can live ever more fully our Christian vocation in union with him and as joyful signs of his saving love, present and at work in our midst.” You can read the full text of his reflection at [On Sacraments, Charisms, and Charity](#).

## **The Importance of the New Evangelization**

Cardinal Óscar Andrés Rodríguez Maradiaga SDB, Archbishop of Tegucigalpa, presented the following thoughts on The Importance of the New Evangelization at the University of Dallas Ministry Conference. Here are a few excerpts from his talk. If interested, you can read the entire talk, [The Importance of the New Evangelization](#).



No ministry can be placed above this dignity common to all. Neither the clergy are “the men of God,” nor are the laity “the men of the world.” That is a false dichotomy. To speak correctly, we should not speak of clergy and laity, but instead of community and ministry. All the baptized are consecrated as a spiritual house and a holy priesthood (LG 10). Therefore, not only we clergymen are “priests,” but also, side by side with the ordained ministry, there is the common priesthood of the faithful. This change in the concept of priesthood is a fundamental one: “In Christ the priesthood is changed” (Hebrews 7: 12). Indeed, the first trait of the priesthood of Jesus is that “he had to be made like his brothers in every respect.”



With the New Evangelization we restart (start anew) from the beginning: we once more become the Church as proclaimer, servant, and Samaritan.

Vatican II does not make the foundations of the Church into a polarizing outline of two extremes, “clergy-laity,” thus robbing the Christian assembly of their own protagonism, participation and responsibility. A presbyter is, above all, a “minister of the Word,” who must communicate to all the life that emanates from Christ, and for that reason devotes himself primarily to the altar and to the celebration of the sacraments. No one can replace him in this regard. But the field of laity offers plenty of spaces, alternatives and scenarios where he still does not make his presence felt in an incisive, decisive and courageous manner. Certainly the Church is more than a democracy, since the religious experience of faith allows her to open herself to a dialogue in pluralism and to share in action the great common causes of life and of the whole being of the universe.

The council opened with enormous sympathy to the world, to science, to progress, to human values, to the collaboration between science and faith, to respecting the autonomy of the creation and the rights of reason, of science, and of liberty.

### **LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE: Forming Leaders for the Church**



The Diocesan Educational/Catechetical Leadership Institute was begun in 1997 as a 5-day orientation program for new or nearly new diocesan leaders. In 2010, the Leadership Institute became an online program which expanded in 2011 to include two tracks of recordings, each track with its own complement of webinars and question-and-answer (Q & A) sessions. Track I serves new diocesan educational or catechetical leaders. Track II serves the professional development needs of veteran

diocesan administrators.

Starting in 2012, the online Leadership Institute is expanded again. **It is offered free of charge to all interested individuals.** It will continue to serve the needs of diocesan leaders. Many of the webinars and Q&A's are also of interest to parish catechetical leaders and catechists, Catholic school principals and teachers, and other individuals who provide faith formation to diverse age groups and settings.

The Leadership Institute is sponsored by the National Catholic Educational Association Departments of Chief Administrators of Catholic Education and Religious Education, the **National Conference for Catechetical Leadership**, and the Secretariats of Catholic Education and of Evangelization and Catechesis, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

### **Great NEWS: Webinar Series by Category**

The Leadership Institute Webinars are now grouped by category or topic. You can now view the webinars by topic. You can create your own curriculum by topics relevant to you. Best of all you can view them on your own schedule! The topics currently available are listed below and you can click on the topic and find out what webinars are included under that topic. You can still find the webinars by their year by going to [Leadership Institute: Tracks and Topics](#).

- [Administrative](#)
- [Adolescent Catechesis](#)
- [Adult Catechesis](#)
- [Catechist as Evangelizer](#)
- [Cultural Diversity](#)
- [Diocesan Directors Formation](#)
- [Family](#)
- [Moral Life](#)
- [New Evangelization](#)
- [Spiritual Life](#)
- [Strong Catechesis](#)

### **Pope Chooses Beatitudes as Theme for Upcoming World Youth Days**



Pope Francis has chosen the theme “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy” (Mt. 5:7) for the next international World Youth Day, scheduled to be held in Krakow, Poland, in July 2016.

He has also decided on two other Beatitudes as themes of the next two World Youth Days which will mark a three-year itinerary of spiritual preparation culminating in the event in Krakow.

Next year, the 29th annual World Youth Day, will be on the theme: “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven” (Mt. 5:3). The 30th World Youth Day in 2015 will be on the theme: “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God” (Mt. 5:8).

## **Vatican Congregation Makes DVD About Eucharistic Adoration**



The Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments together with HM Television has just published a new DVD that will help the faithful rediscover the importance of Eucharistic Adoration in the life and mission of the Church. It is the second video in a series of four, entitled: "From the Visible to the Invisible." The video contains testimonies of conversion thanks to Eucharistic Adoration, as well as its history and the biblical foundations.

Cardinal Antonio Cañizares, Prefect of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, has strongly supported and encouraged the production of this video precisely because he believes that, "the New Evangelization will not be possible if there is no Adoration."

In his interview in the video, he says: " A new evangelization implies bringing mankind to recognize God as God. Not just any god, but the God who has revealed Himself to us in the person of Jesus Christ, in the Incarnate Word, who has manifested the fullness of this revelation in His own death and resurrection. And to live this, one must live it in Adoration."



In addition to the intervention of the Cardinal Prefect and the testimonies of life and of conversion thanks to Eucharistic Adoration, Mons. José Ignacio Munilla, bishop of San Sebastian (Spain), explains the biblical foundations of Eucharistic Adoration with extraordinary clarity, Mons. Piero Amenta, prelate auditor of the Tribunal of the Roman Rota, briefly explains the history of Eucharistic Adoration, and Mons. Marc Aillet, bishop of the diocese of Bayonne, France, speaks of how Eucharistic Adoration is renewing his diocese.

For more information, visit the website:

<http://www.eukmamie.org/en/television/series/visible-invisible/1520-adoration>.

## **How Many Saints Are There?**

Historian and writer Kathleen Manning wrote the following article for the November issue of *U. S. Catholic*.



Catholics frequently invoke the holy women and men of the church. But how many people make up this exclusive group? The historic news that emerged from the ecclesial council held on February 11, 2013 was Pope Benedict XVI's resignation. But that was not the day's only newsworthy event: Benedict called the consistory to vote on three canonization causes. Then on May 12 the Catholic Church



recognized another 802 saints. Blessed Laura Montoya Upegui of Colombia and Blessed Maria Guadalupe Garcia Zavala of Mexico both founded religious orders at the dawn of the 20th century. Blessed Antonio Primaldo and the other 799 saints-to-be were residents of Otranto in southern Italy, killed for refusing to convert to Islam after Ottoman Turks besieged their town in 1480.

These 802 men and women will join the more than 10,000 saints the Catholic Church already venerates. The precise number of Catholic saints will always be debatable. Early Christian communities venerated hundreds of saints, but historical research by 17th- and 18th-century Catholic scholars determined that very few of these saints' stories were backed by solid historical evidence. Lives of such well-known figures as St. George, St. Valentine, and St. Christopher were based either on a legend that often predated Christianity or were entirely made up. Other saints had local followings. In rural France, St. Guinefort was venerated as the protector of infants after he saved his master's baby from a snakebite. St. Guinefort was a dog.

The prospect of venerating dogs or folk heroes troubled some church leaders. During the Middle Ages, popes began claiming canonization was a power of their office alone. Initially all that was needed was a bishop's permission for a holy man or woman to be venerated as a saint. In 1588, Pope Sixtus V integrated the sainthood process into the papal bureaucracy, charging the Congregation of Rites and Ceremonies with vetting potential saints.



In 1969 Paul VI created the Congregation for the Causes of Saints to oversee this process. He also suppressed several saints' cults largely on the basis that the acts and miracles attributed to the saints, or in some cases even the basic facts of their existence, could not be historically verified. People already under their patronage could continue to venerate these saints, but they no longer appear on the Roman calendar, and no new parishes or other institutions would open under their name.

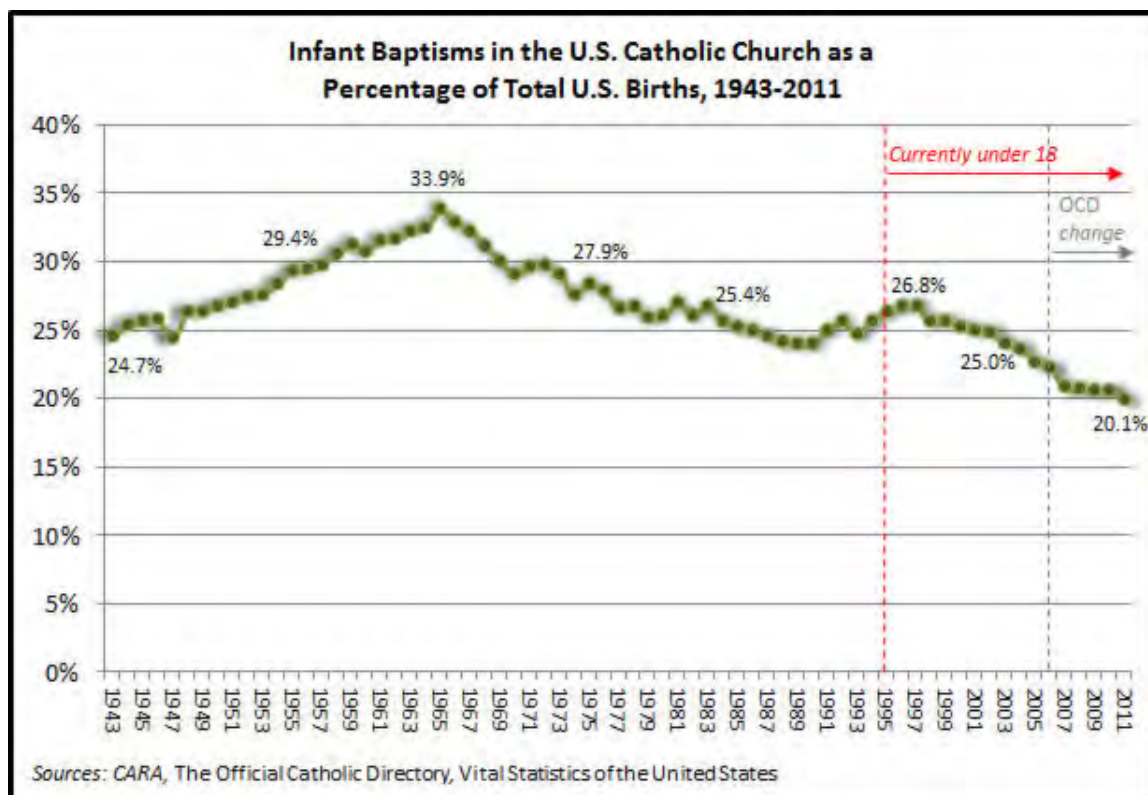
Revisions to the canonization process in 1983 ensured we will see more saints in the future. John Paul II eliminated the office of Promoter of the Faith, or, as it's more commonly known, the Devil's Advocate, a canon lawyer tasked with arguing against a person's possible canonization. Consequently, John Paul II canonized more saints than the popes from the previous 500 years combined.

## **Declining Proportion of Baptisms a Cause for Concern**

*The CARA Report* for Summer 2013 featured an article from CARA's award winning Blog, *1964*. This article chronicles the decline in baptisms over the last 50 years. Below is an excerpt of that article. For more information or to read the Blog, [click here](#). This edition also featured a special section on U.S. and Worldwide Church statistics, including data on the proportion of immigrants who are Christian, one-year and five-year changes in worldwide Church statistics, and updated Frequently Requested Church Statistics for the United States.

According to the report, "From 1995 to 2004 there was about one Catholic infant baptism for every four births in the U.S. This is how Catholicism remains a quarter of the U.S. population. Some leave before reaching 18 and some of these people come back later in life. Immigration also adds numbers. But after 2004 the pattern begins to shift with several years of more births (until the recession) and fewer Catholic infant baptisms." Moreover, in confirmation of this trend, "there were more First Communion celebrated nationally in 2011 than infants baptized."

It is significant that these statistics are not survey data that is subject to margins of error. The situation reported is really happening. There are two possible reasons. The first is that "Catholics are just as likely to baptize their children now as in the past, but they are having significantly fewer children than non-Catholics. Possible but unlikely." The second is that "Catholics are just as likely as non-Catholics to have children but are less likely to baptize these children than in the past. More probable."



## **Catholic Volunteer Network Alumni 'Transformed' by Year of Service**



Former participants in the [Catholic Volunteer Network](#) have remained involved in church and civil work long after their service commitment was done, according to a study released Nov. 8.

The study was commissioned by [Catholic Volunteer Network](#) -- which is now celebrating its 50th anniversary -- and was conducted by the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate at Georgetown University. It was based on online surveys filled out by more than 5,000 of 18,000 former Catholic Volunteer Network volunteers from February to June 2013.



Jesuit Father Tom Gaunt, CARA's executive director, said the study highlights "the profound effect one year of service has on young adults" which he said "truly transformed" them. He also said their response reveals how the program has played and continues to play an important role in forming a "cadre of leadership" for the

church. Watch a video on [CARA's Report](#).

The priest said that a key finding of the study was that 60 percent of Catholic Volunteer Network alumni are currently engaged in church activities. He said many of those who came to the organization were already invested in their faith and then continued with this commitment while those in their peer group have shown a diminished level of involvement in the church. He also noted that the experience had a positive effect on marriage stability since the rate of divorce among respondents was 9 percent, which is significantly less than the 25 percent average among Catholics.

## **Women Religious Ask Pope for World Day of Prayer Against Trafficking**

After Pope Francis entrusted two Vatican academies to study the problem of human trafficking, a group of women religious asked the pope to raise greater awareness in the church about the issue by establishing a worldwide day of prayer and fasting. "The pope was very interested in our suggestion and asked us what date we would like the day to be," said Consolata Sister Eugenia Bonetti.



"We told him Feb. 8 -- the feast day of St. Josephine Bakhita," a Sudanese slave who found freedom in Italy and became a nun in the late 19th century. She said the idea for a worldwide day of prayer came from "the need to do something that joins us together" to tackle the global problem; some dioceses and parishes are active on the issue while others are unaware or indifferent, she said.

Sister Eugenia, a leader among religious women in Italy working against human trafficking -- particularly women and young girls



forced into prostitution -- was one of about 80 people attending a Nov. 2-3 working group on trafficking at the Vatican.

While he was archbishop of Buenos Aires, the future Pope Francis had been a strong supporter of local activists and initiatives fighting human trafficking and supporting rescued victims. Bishop Sanchez told journalists Nov. 4 that the pope wants to see the working group's findings and recommendations, and that "he will do something important" with the information. The pope told him recently that the academies' attention to the problem was very important to him and that the work that came out of it would be "valuable," the bishop said.

Worldwide, at least 21 million people are victims of forced labor, including sexual exploitation, and traffickers bring in an estimated \$32 billion annually because of their illicit activities, the U.S. State Department's 2012 Trafficking in Persons report said. An estimated 100,000 to 300,000 minors are victims of sex trafficking at any given time, according to the U.S. Justice Department.

The November meeting was the first time the Vatican academies had dedicated a session to studying human trafficking, the bishop said. They will have another meeting next year in the run-up to a larger gathering in 2015, the bishop told journalists. "The pope, ever since he was an archbishop, had already intuited this serious social problem," Bishop Sanchez told Vatican Radio. "We were dumbstruck for not having figured it out beforehand." You can read the complete [Press Release](#).

### **Cultural Differences in the Decision-Making Process – Free Webinar**



Join Lourdes Garza as she shares information about some of the different ways that Americans of Northern Europe descent and Hispanics will consider when they decide how to work together in ministry, at parish, or otherwise. As our parishes become more culturally

integrated, it is valuable to know that there are cultural differences at play whenever people sit together to make decisions in ministry work. The differences can take place at the beginning of a project or throughout it. It is important to take into consideration what these differences are and to use them to bring people of different backgrounds together in ministry.

Register today for this *free* webinar co-sponsored by Sadlier and the National Catholic Association of Diocesan Directors for Hispanic Ministry (NCADDHM). Choose the session that best suits your needs.

IN ENGLISH:

Thursday, November 14 – 7:00 PM ET

EN ESPAÑOL:

Miércoles, 15 de enero 2014 – 7:00 PM ET

Lourdes Garza is the Director of the Office of Hispanic Ministry for the Diocese of Knoxville. Ms. Garza was born in Mexico City. Her parents migrated to the United States when she was 12 yrs. old and she grew up in Southern California. In 1998, Lourdes migrated to Tennessee with her family, settling in Knoxville. She has extensive experience in ministry to preschoolers, youth, young adults, adults, and seniors, both in English and Spanish. Her bicultural experience brings richness to her ministry in many aspects.



**For another opportunity to learn about ministering across cultures**, please check out the presentation from the Loyola Institute for Ministry, featuring Ansel Augustine, Director Black Catholic Ministries, Archdiocese of New Orleans.

## "Multi-Cultural Ministry and the New Evangelization"

**Monday, November 18, 8 pm CST on**

[www.lim.loyno.edu/webinars](http://www.lim.loyno.edu/webinars)

Webinars are free and open to the public, but attendance is limited to 100 participants and available on a first-come, first-served basis.

### **FREE Professional Development Webinar – Tuesday, November 19, 2013**



*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 is offered on Tuesday, November 19 at 3:00 pm EDT. You can register at [PDW-11-19-2013](http://PDW-11-19-2013). For a complete listing of professional development webinars in this series, please visit [www.avemariapress.com/webinars](http://www.avemariapress.com/webinars).

Professional Development  
**WEBINAR**  
SERIES



***Bringing Hope to the Bereaved in Your Parish:  
Insights from the Seasons of Hope Approach***

**Presented by Donna MacLeod, Author of [Seasons of Hope Guidebook:  
Creating and Sustaining Catholic Bereavement Groups \(Season of Hope  
Participant's Journals\)](#)**

**Tuesday, November 19, 2013 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM EST**



Join M. Donna MacLeod, a nationally recognized hospice care and bereavement specialist and author of *Seasons of Hope: Creating and Sustaining Catholic Bereavement Groups* and *Participant Journals*, as we explore what makes the Seasons of Hope bereavement group approach truly minister to the spiritual side of grieving. This overview also highlights Seasons of Hope's simple session format that flows with a comforting blend of prayer, commentary, scripture, reflection exercises, faith sharing, fellowship, and Catholic tradition.



**Mattie J. T. Stepanek Cause for Sainthood**

**At the National Catholic Partnership on Disabilities, the Youth/Young Adult Leadership Award was given to Mattie J. Stepanek** posthumously. The Mattie J. T. Stepanek Guild was initiated on the Feast of St. Matthew the Apostle on September 21, 2012 to gather information and investigate Mattie's life and virtues for the possible Cause for Canonization.

**Mattie's mother shares a recently discovered video of Mattie's comments regarding world peace on his website <http://www.mattieonline.com/>** Watching Mattie share his poetry and reflections is a very profound experience.

At one point Mattie had several of his poetry books on the *New York Times Best Seller* list. You can purchase any of the following poetry books from the NCCL Amazon Bookstore.

- [Heartsongs](#)
- [Journey Through Heartsongs](#)
- [Celebrate Through Heartsongs](#)
- [Loving Through Heartsongs](#)
- [Hope Through Heartsongs](#)





To share a story about Mattie's impact on your life, or to offer support for his Cause, contact [MattiesCause@gmail.com](mailto:MattiesCause@gmail.com). This is one of my favorite poems by Mattie which he wrote when he was eight (8) years old.

### **PBS Documentary Brings to Life JFK's Flaws, Courage**



Sr. Rose Pacatte reviews "JFK: Like No Other," PBS American Experience which is to air at 9 p.m. Eastern time Nov. 11 (part one) and Nov. 12 (part two) (Check local listings). Those of us 60 and older probably remember where we were when the announcement was made and that's how she begins her article. What made me consider watching the four-hour documentary film was her statement that "I hope high school students and others will watch this film not as hagiography, but to understand the flaws that politicians bring with them to office and the

flashes of wisdom and brilliance that can make a difference in people's lives if indeed they have the courage." You can read her full review at [JFK: Like No Other](#).

### **Teenage Football Players Do Something Unexpected**



I highly encourage you to watch this video. The guys are amazing and they must have parents who have passed on great values. They're full of kindness, empathy, compassion, and love — and they're only in junior high. I am sure every parent hopes to raise kids who care about others like these boys do. The future is a brighter place

with them in it. Watch [Olivet Eagles](#).

### **Ways of Seeing: Culture, Religion, Cinema**



This presentation is an outline for a class Sr. Rose Pacatte, FSP taught at Loyola Marymount University, subbing for Fr. Alan Deck SJ: Ways of Seeing: Culture, Religion, Cinema course. She shared her PowerPoint, [Ways of Seeing](#) on Slideshare. It's worth checking out.

### **The Baptismal Catechumenal Model Webinar Recording NOW Available**



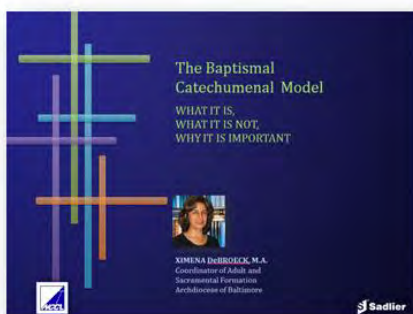
Sadlier and the NCCL Adult Faith Formation Committee have announced that the recordings from their recent webinar has been posted in both English and Spanish. The description of the webinar along with information about the presenter follows the links.

#### **THE BAPTISMAL CATECHUMENAL MODEL C. The Catechumenal Model in RCIA**

Catechetical	Liturgical	Pastoral
Pre-catechumenate		Listen Evangelization
	Rite of Acceptance	
Catechumenate		Catechesis

- English - <http://youtu.be/uIwnJxPpUml>
- Spanish - <http://youtu.be/JC36dASGBwE>

The *General Directory for Catechesis* (#59) calls the baptismal catechumenal the “model for all catechesis.” What pastoral significance does this have for the catechesis of adults within parishes and dioceses? Join Ximena DeBroeck on this informative webinar to learn about the history of the baptismal catechumenate and how this model can inform and transform your adult faith formation efforts.



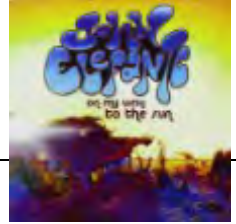
**Ximena DeBroeck** is Coordinator of Adult and Sacramental Formation for the Archdiocese of Baltimore. She has served as adjunct faculty at St. Vincent Seminary, PA and Seton Hill University, as Coordinator of Faith Formation and Sacramental Preparation at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral and as pastoral coordinator for the Archdiocese for Military Services. Ximena earned a Master of Arts in theology, with a Sacred Scripture major, from Saint Vincent Seminary. She has completed her doctoral coursework

### **This Time: Pro-Life Video**

Former "Kansas" lead singer and producer John Elefante partnered with [Online for Life](#) to produce his newest single "This Time." The video shares the story of his adopted daughter's birth, and in the process, brings attention to [Online for Life](#), an educational non-profit working to rescue babies from abortion so they can live to make their mark on the world.



"I can't imagine life without my daughter, Sami, and it just breaks my heart that pregnant young women much like her birth mother, instead of choosing life for their babies, are denying them the chance to be born," Elefante said. "If our song can in any way bring attention to this issue and encourage those who are considering abortion to choose life through options such as adoption, then we couldn't be happier." You can watch the video at [This Time for Keeps](#). You can purchase "[This Time](#)" from John's new album [On My Way to the Sun](#) from the NCCL Amazon Bookstore.



Here are the lyrics.

She sat cold in a waiting room,  
frightened and all alone  
Watched the clock tick down,  
knowing that her baby would soon be gone  
Her head slung low, so embarrassed  
She was 13 years old  
She felt a kick inside as a reminder  
of a life she couldn't show  
Then she heard a voice inside say "Run away!  
It was a mistake, but don't throw your child away!"

Then she fell into a light sleep,  
had a dream about a little girl  
There was a birthday cake and three candles  
She was living in another world  
She saw the little girl become a woman,  
living in a happy home  
Then she was suddenly awakened  
by a voice that called her name  
They said, "Don't worry, you'll be fine.  
You're still young, we see this all the time."

Right then the Lord began to speak:  
"You're not taking this one! She's Mine!  
She'll grow up and seek My name.  
You're not taking her! She's Mine!  
And you're not taking her this time.  
No, you're not taking her this time."

She laid flat on the table  
She asked "Please, can I talk to someone?"  
But a headstrong woman with a blank stare  
said "We've gotta get this done."  
Then she cried out, "Lord, please help me!  
I've got to get to a phone!  
I need to call my mother  
to help me find my baby a home!"  
They said, "Don't worry, you'll be fine.  
You're still young, we see this all the time."

Right then the Lord began to speak:  
"You're not taking this one! She's Mine!  
She'll grow up to seek My name.  
You're not taking her this time.  
I decided before time began.



Her name is written in the Book.  
They didn't have the power to take her life.  
They're not taking her - she's Mine!  
You're not taking her this time.  
No, you're not taking her this time."

This time  
No, you're not taking her this time.

### **Mortality: Danny and Annie from StoryCorps**



and morality.

The notion of contemplating mortality can be an abstract one for those not facing death. It can be [waxed about in highly romanticized language](#), such as in a Wallace Stevens poem, or shown on television in the most inhuman ways, leaving us cold and unmoved. Although not specifically Catholic, this piece offers an insight into love

Danny Perasa and his wife, Annie, came to StoryCorps to recount their twenty-seven-year romance. As they remember their life together from their first date to Danny's final days with terminal cancer, these remarkable Brooklynites personify the eloquence, grace, and poetry that can be found in the voices of everyday people when we take the time to listen

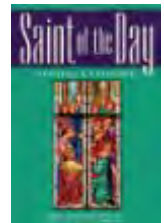
They had been married for 27 years when Danny was diagnosed with a fast-spreading, painful form of terminal cancer. It's a love story illustrating that the process of dying is not only a medical event, but a personal one in which "eloquence, grace, and poetry" can still be found. Danny passed away on February 24, 2006. You can watch [Danny and Annie](#). There are fifteen (15) other animated stores at [StoryCorps](#).



### **Saint of the Day: Updated and Expanded**

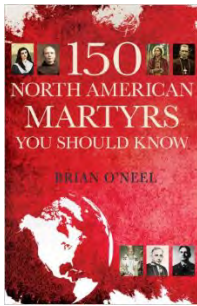
This is the 40th anniversary edition of [Saint of the Day](#), first compiled by Leonard Foley, O.F.M., and published in two volumes. Through the years, this popular book has been a go-to source for information on key saints. This seventh revised edition contains the following additions:

- New saints and blessed such as John of Avila, Hildegard of Bingen, John Henry Newman, and John Paul II.



- An expanded Introduction, with more detail about the current process of canonization.
- Also, background on the evolution of *Saint of the Day* since the first two volumes, including its recent formats as a daily online resource and as an app.
- A suggested resources section of additional Franciscan Media products with information about saints and blessed

### **150 North American Martyrs You Should Know**



Brian O'Neel tells the stories of martyrs who, by their courage and commitment, changed the world. These are women and men who have a connection to North America and while all did not die a martyr in the traditional sense, they did give their lives for the faith. Like his previous books, [39 New Saints You Should Know](#) and [Saint Who?: 39 Holy Unknowns](#) there is always a practical application for the reader.

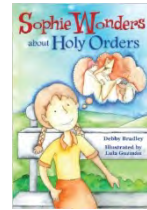


**The Baker's Dozen: A Saint Nicholas Tale** This story begins in Albany, New York when a mysterious woman enters the bakery and insists that a dozen is thirteen. What unfolds is a story that requires the presence of Saint Nicholas. You can order [The Baker's Dozen: A Saint Nicholas Tale \(15th Anniversary Edition, with Bonus Cookie Recipe and Pattern for St. Nicholas Christmas](#)

[Cookies](#) from the NCCL Amazon Bookstore.

## **Sophie Wonders About the Sacraments**

Four of the seven books in the series are now available. The books are ideal for young children and feature a young, inquisitive girl named Sophie.



**[Sophie Wonders About Eucharist](#)** **[About Reconciliation](#)** **[About Anointing](#)** **[Holy Orders](#)**