

Dear Catechetical Colleagues,

Next month, the extraordinary Synod on the Family will begin at the Vatican. This gathering of 253 people will be led by Pope Francis and is composed of cardinals, bishops, priests and laity. It will set the stage for next October's ordinary Synod on the Family and the **World Meeting of Families that will take place in Philadelphia, PA in September 22-25, 2015. A prayer, icon and catechetical resources have just been published and are included in this newsletter.** Over the next year, as updates become available, they will be included in this newsletter. It may be an event you would like to attend. I also would ask your prayers for my sister and brother-in-law, Alice and Jeff Heinzen, who have been appointed as auditors for the Vatican Synod and also will be presenting on the state of the family in the United States.

As you are aware, there are new Religion Standards for our Archdiocesan elementary schools and parishes. Both are posted online and Kristin Dixon and I are spending time this year to begin the orientation process for them. Please feel free to contact me with your questions for the parish version.



As we officially enter the season of fall, there are many webinars and events for you to consider. Many of them can be found in the embedded links below and/or by opening the attached newsletter, which again is filled with resources and ideas to support our catechetical ministries.

Upcoming events:

- **Webinars**

- **September 23<sup>rd</sup>** "[Journey Through Advent](#)" sponsored by our Missions Office with Catholic Relief Services
- **September 23<sup>rd</sup>** "[Teaching to Pray](#)" sponsored by NCEA
- **September 23<sup>rd</sup>** "[Best Practices for Catechesis with Hispanics](#)" sponsored by NCCL and Ave Maria Press
- **September 23<sup>rd</sup>** "[Copyright Issues for Parishes](#)" sponsored by USCCB
- **September 23<sup>rd</sup>** "[What Living the Eucharist Can Do for Your Parish](#)"
- **September 27<sup>th</sup>** [Healing the Culture](#) Gala
- **September 30<sup>th</sup> & October 16<sup>th</sup>** "[The Joy of the Gospel](#)"
- **October 23<sup>rd</sup>** "[New Evangelization](#)" with Joe Paprocki
- [Building a Better Disciple](#) from Diocese of Springfield, IL

- **September 25, 26 & 27 [Special Needs Presentations](#) in Vancouver, Lacey and Seattle**
- **October 2nd at 7 p.m. - [Ignatian Spirituality 101](#) at St. Joseph Parish in Seattle**
- **Deaf Community Retreat, October 4<sup>th</sup> at St. James Cathedral (see below)**
- **October 9<sup>th</sup>, [Hispanic Ministry in Catholic Parishes](#) presented by Boston College Professor, Dr. Hosffman Osbino at St. Louise de Marillac Church**
- **October 10<sup>th</sup> [High School Religion Networking and In-service Day](#) at the Chancery (803 Terry Building)**
- **Retreat for Special Needs Families, October 18<sup>th</sup> at Eastside Catholic High School (see below)**
- **October 24 & 25 [Cornerstone Conference](#) at the Tacoma Convention Center.** This is a major event for all Catholics in Washington State and your presence is strongly encouraged!
- **November 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>, [Team RCIA Institute](#) sponsored by our Archdiocesan Liturgy Office, Team RICA and Seattle University**
- **[Special Needs Community Carnival](#), November 8<sup>th</sup> at Our Lady of Guadalupe.**
- **Mark your calendars! February 19, 2015 Annual Pastor/Faith Formation Leader Luncheon.** The presentation will focus on family faith formation. More information will be available in the near future!
- **Also, please check out the variety of faith formation opportunities at our [Archbishop Brunett Retreat and Faith Formation Center](#).** We are blessed to have this awesome resource available to support and renew us in our multiple ministries!

In Christ,

*Anne*

Anne Frederick, Ed.D.  
Archdiocesan Director of Religious Education

## Universal Day of Prayer for the Synod: September 28

Archbishop Joseph Kurtz, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, has joined Pope Francis and the office for the Synod of Bishops in encouraging a universal Day of Prayer on September 28 for the Third Extraordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops addressing The Pastoral Challenges of the Family in the Context of Evangelization (October 5-19). Suggested prayers include a prayer to the Holy Family written by Pope Francis and intercessory prayers for the Prayers of the Faithful at Mass, other liturgical settings, and in family or personal prayer. See [www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/marriage-and-family/upload/September-28-2014-Day-of-Prayer-for-Synod.pdf](http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/marriage-and-family/upload/September-28-2014-Day-of-Prayer-for-Synod.pdf). Families and all Catholics are encouraged to pray the Rosary each day of the Synod.

## World Meeting of Families



Next September, American Catholics will have a unique opportunity to participate in a global meeting of Catholics focused on marriage and the family. It's called the **World Meeting of Families** and will take place in **Philadelphia, Sept. 22–27, 2015**. The theme for the World Meeting is *Love is Our Mission: The Family Fully Alive*. Although not officially announced yet, **Pope Francis** will preside over the closing Mass. Even if no one in your parish can travel to Philadelphia, there are a number of ways to make use of the many excellent resources accompanying the [World Meeting of Families](#), including:

[Parish Resource Guide](#) – you will find many resources that will help your parish community prepare for the 8<sup>th</sup> World Meeting of Families, September 22-27, 2015. These resources will help everyone in your parish begin reflecting upon the beauty and joy of God's plan for marriage and family life in anticipation of the teachings, activities, and celebrations at the World Meeting of Families event. The Guide has special prayers, bulletin announcements, adult faith formation curriculum, and suggestions for using the Preparatory Catechesis (see next item).

**Preparatory Catechesis** – The official catechesis of the World Meeting of Families--Philadelphia 2015 is now available in both English and Spanish! The catechesis is available to buy through the WMF website or Our Sunday Visitor, the official publisher of the catechesis. There are also downloadable **lesson plans for elementary and high school**.

### **Official Prayer**

God and Father of us all,  
in Jesus, your Son and our Savior,  
you have made us your sons and daughters  
in the family of the Church.  
May your grace and love help our families  
in every part of the world  
be united to one another  
in fidelity to the Gospel.  
May the example of the Holy Family,  
with the aid of your Holy Spirit,  
guide all families, especially those most troubled,  
to be homes of communion and prayer  
and to always seek your truth and live in your love.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**



### **Synod on the Family Guide**

This guide was created by National Conference of Catechetical Leadership (NCCL) member, Dr. Pat Clement, to provide background information on the Synod, including, the Official Working Paper.

# Archdiocese of Seattle Deaf Community Retreat

**October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

10:00am-4:00pm



**“The Prayer of the Lord:  
A reflective look at the Lord’s Prayer as  
both model and method.”**

**With Dr. John Simpson**

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Dr. Simpson has served the Church in many ways: catechist, professor, leader, and pastor to name a few. Additionally, he has served Saint James Cathedral as their pastoral care minister since 2007.

The retreat will include a tour of St. James Cathedral led by Dr. James Savage

**Location: Chancery Building – 910 Marion St., Seattle, WA 98104**

**Lunch to be included**

**RSVP to Erica Cohen Moore, [ericac@seattlearch.org](mailto:ericac@seattlearch.org) or 206-382-4852**

# Archdiocese of Seattle

## Retreat for Special Needs Families

# To Seek the Lord's Healing



Speaker:

*Rev. David Mulholland*

Pastor of St. Mark, Seattle, and  
former member of the  
Archdiocesan Special Needs  
Committee

All family members  
and abilities welcome!

October 18, 2014    9:00am-2:00pm

Eastside Catholic High School  
232 228<sup>th</sup> Ave. SE, Sammamish

FOR QUESTIONS AND TO RSVP

Contact Erica Cohen Moore

206-382-4852 - [ericac@seattlearch.org](mailto:ericac@seattlearch.org)

**Cornerstone Conference, Oct. 24-25:** Please help promote the Bishops' statewide Cornerstone Catholic Conference to your parishioners! WSCC has developed several [new flyers](#) to catch the eye of those who have not yet registered. Please consider running them in your September bulletins. They print out well in black and white, and the color version would look lovely on a parish bulletin board.

**Here is a paragraph that could be used as a website and/or bulletin notice:**

Make plans now to attend the Cornerstone Catholic Conference Oct 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> at the Greater Tacoma Convention Center. The Bishops of Washington State are sponsoring the Cornerstone Conference to inspire and educate Catholics. This is a statewide conference sponsored by our Catholic bishops and the line-up of speakers is truly impressive:

- Archbishop Sartain, Bishop Elizondo, Bishop Cupich, and Bishop Tyson
- Immaculee Ilibagiza (Rwandan genocide survivor)
- Abby Johnson (former Planned Parenthood director)
- Serrin Foster (President of Feminists for Life)
- Vicki Thorn (national founder of Project Rachel)
- Bishop Robert McElroy (frequent contributor to Catholic media on caring for the poor)
- Clare Halpine (World Youth Alliance)
- There will also be noted speakers on

human trafficking,  
ministry to the poor,  
end-of-life decisions, and  
building a cooperative culture of life within the parish.

**Maryknoll and our Missions Office are sponsoring a Student Essay Contest.** For more information go to: <http://www.maryknollsociety.org/index.php/articles/2-articles/2-maryknoll-essay-contest-rules->

**The annual Respect Life Month statement is now available on the [website of USCCB's Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities](#) in both English and Spanish.** The theme this year is "Each of Us is a Masterpiece of God's Creation!" Please also note that materials from this year's [Respect Life program](#) are also available, including a pamphlet titled, "Poverty and Abortion: A Vicious Cycle."

## Foundations of Our Catholic Faith

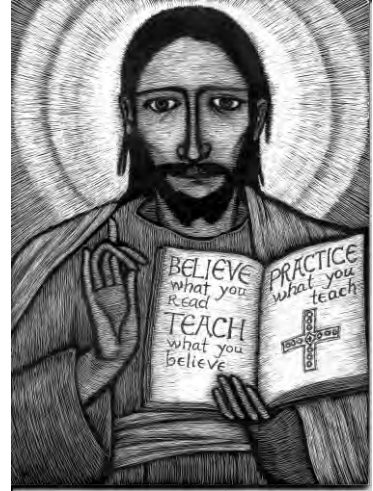
### Catechist Certification Program

#### 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)

### Adults Micro-lessons: “Teaching About God’s Gift of Forgiveness”

The Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston has produced a resource for adults for the upcoming catechetical year. This resource takes the Catechetical Sunday theme, “Teaching About God’s Gift of Forgiveness”, and develops it over 9 micro-lessons. Parish groups could use this resource for as little as 5 minutes a month for intentional adult catechesis.

Available in English <http://www.archgh.org/OEC/Catechetical-Framework/Framework-Resources-for-PCLs/> and in Spanish <http://www.archgh.org/OEC/Marco-Catequetico/Recursos-para-Lideres-Catequeticos-sobre-el-Marco/>. The resource is listed as the third item on each website. *We thank the Archdiocese for sharing this resource with our NCCL members.*



## FREE Professional Development Webinar–Tuesday, September 23



NCCL is continuing its partnership with **Ave Maria Press** in presenting a series of free, online, professional development workshops for parish



ministers.

The next webinar, [Best Practices for Catechesis with Hispanics](#) is presented by three members of NCCL's Federation for Catechesis with Hispanics. According to the most recent U.S. census, 59% of Catholics in the United States are Hispanic/Latino(a). At the same time, decreasing percentages of Hispanics stay Catholic as adults. It is essential for the Church to reach out with open hearts to welcome newcomers to Catholic parishes. It is time to implement changes in the way we evangelize and catechize within the Church. In this webinar panel discussion, leaders in Hispanic catechesis will discuss a wide variety of issues including:

- Cultural norms to keep in mind
- Devotional practices common among Hispanic Catholics
- Reaching Hispanic youth and young adults
- How to approach evangelization and catechesis differently with different cultures
- Examples of effective ministries, programs, and processes existing in the Church today

Join the discussion and walk away with new ideas to try in your own diocese or parish.

Panelists include: Jule Blevins, Director, Office of Evangelization and Catechesis, Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston; Maria Covarrubias, Director, Office of Catechetical Ministry, Diocese of San Bernardino; Peter Ductram, Director, Office of Catechesis, Archdiocese of Miami.

Date: September 23, 2014

Time: 3 p.m. EDT

## Building Intercultural Competence for Ministers: Oct. 20-24, 2014

The California Conference of Diocesan Directors of Catechetical Ministry is hosting this training workshop that was developed by the USCCB Secretariat of Cultural Diversity in the Church. Though some dioceses are offering an abbreviated form of the training, this is the full 20+ hours training process, divided into 5 modules. All those in leadership positions in the Church – clergy and laity – are being encouraged to participate in the BICM training.

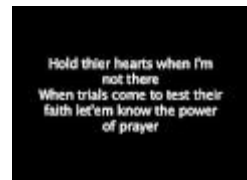
October 20-22, 2014, Las Vegas, NV. For more information and the registration form go to:

<http://usccb.org/issues-and-action/cultural-diversity/intercultural-competencies/upload/LasVegas-BICM-Registration-Information.pdf>

## Parent's Prayer: Hold their hearts when I'm not there

This song may be the prayer of every parent.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=puuaxhEfpDw>



## Catholic Parent Revival



Parents, grandparents and guardians from across the country are invited to join together either onsite or online December 6, 11:00 am-5:00 pm CST, at the Lila Cockrell Theatre in San Antonio for the Catholic Parent Revival (CPR) – a day designed to revive their faith and celebrate their vocation as they help their families grow in faith. With national presenters and performers like Steve and Jenni Angrisano, Mark Hart, Archbishop Gustavo Garcia-Siller, Roy Petitfils, Noelle Garcia and John Angotti, attendees will be treated to a day of inspiring stories, moving music, and meaningful prayer that is guaranteed to breathe new life into the role that faith takes within their home, the domestic church. For more information and registration links, go to: [www.catholicparentrevival.org](http://www.catholicparentrevival.org). **The Catholic Parent Revival is part of the Strong Catholic Families initiative presented in partnership with NFCYM, NCCL, NACFLM, and NCEA.**

## A Parent's Love – From the Elderly's Perspective



For many people who are living healthy, busy lives as young and middle-aged adults, it's easy to ignore or grow impatient with the challenges that their parents face as they grow older. Watch this elderly parent's perspective on parent's love.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g0sihX98mAw>

## Pope's General Audience: To Change the World, We Must Do Good to Those Who Cannot Reciprocate

[http://www.zenit.org/en/articles/pope-s-general-audience-mother-church-teaches-us-mercy-essential-for-salvation?utm\\_campaign=dailyhtml&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=dispatch](http://www.zenit.org/en/articles/pope-s-general-audience-mother-church-teaches-us-mercy-essential-for-salvation?utm_campaign=dailyhtml&utm_medium=email&utm_source=dispatch)



At last week's general audience, Pope Francis said that Mother Church teaches us works of mercy are essential for our salvation, but it is not enough to do good to those who do good to us. We must also do good to those who are unable to reciprocate, as Jesus did. We see Jesus' words in the actions of the saints who have visited those in prison, of mothers who teach their children to share what they have with those in need, through women like Blessed Teresa of Calcutta who held the hand of the abandoned so they would not die alone.

*Photo: Vatican Insider*

"This is how the Mother Church teaches her children the works of mercy. She has learned this path from Jesus", the Pope said. "A good teacher does not get lost in the details, but points to what is essential so that the child or student can find meaning and joy in life."

Moving from his scripted speech, the Pope added this story: A mother told me that she wanted to teach this to her children and told them to help and give food to the hungry. One day at

lunch there was a knock on their door. A gentleman asked if they had something he could eat. The mother told her children, ages 4, 5, and 7 that a man was at the door asking for something to eat. "What should we do?" "Give him some, Mom, give him some!" they replied. Each child had a steak and fries on their plate. "Very well, each of you take half of your dinner and give it to him." "No, Mom, that's not fair!" "That's the way it is – you have to give him what you have." So this mother taught their children to give of their own food – not just when they have extra, but from whatever they have.

## Pope's Catechesis: The Church Was Born Catholic and Apostolic

[http://www.zenit.org/en/articles/pope-s-general-audience-the-church-was-born-catholic-and-apostolic?utm\\_campaign=dailyhtml&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=dispatch](http://www.zenit.org/en/articles/pope-s-general-audience-the-church-was-born-catholic-and-apostolic?utm_campaign=dailyhtml&utm_medium=email&utm_source=dispatch)



Photo: [www.salon.com](http://www.salon.com)

At this week's general audience, Pope Francis focused on the Creed's words *catholic* and *apostolic*. *Catholic* signifies that the Church is universal. "This means that the Church is found everywhere and teaches the whole truth regarding the heavens and the earth. The Church shows her catholicity by speaking all languages which is the effect of Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit gave to the Apostles and the whole Church the gift of proclaiming the Good News of God's salvation and love to all, even to the ends of the earth.

### The Church

then is of her nature missionary, given to evangelization and encounter; that is, she is *apostolic*. Founded on the Apostles and in continuity with them, the Church is called to proclaim the Gospel to everyone, and to show the tenderness and power of God. This too flows from Pentecost. It is the Holy Spirit who prevents us from being self-absorbed, of thinking that the blessings of God are for us alone. Rather, the Spirit compels us to encounter our brothers and sisters, even those most distant from us in every way, to share with them the love, peace, and joy of the Risen Lord. May we always live in solidarity with all of humanity, and never closed in on ourselves. May we go out, in communion with the Successors of the Apostles, to announce Christ and his love to all.

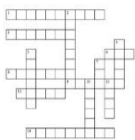
## One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic

This short video by the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, clearly explains the four marks of the Church: One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lhxaxAJ7\\_nY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lhxaxAJ7_nY)



## Nicene Creed Crossword Puzzle



Complete this [crossword puzzle](#) yourselves, then try it out with your catechists and students. (Created by Puzzlemaker at [DiscoveryEducation.com](http://DiscoveryEducation.com).) Other Nicene Creed puzzles can be found on the textbook publishers websites.

## Middle Schoolers: I'll Follow Jesus

Catechesis is broader than just classroom-centered study. Here, middle schoolers dance and sing to "I'll Follow Jesus".

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dx6RWOUf1M8>



Join NCEA for this upcoming webinar [September 23](#).

One registration benefits many — gather your colleagues for this team learning opportunity!

### Teaching to Pray No-Cost Webinar Tuesday, September 23, 2014



Mickie Abatemarco  
NCEA Religious Education  
Department

The Catholic church describes six fundamental, interrelated tasks for the work of religious education and faith formation. This first webinar in the Six Tasks of Catechesis webinar series will focus on the task of teaching to pray.

Through a learning dialogue with NCEA staff and a practitioner working in the field, Catholic educators in Catholic schools and parishes will explore the practical implications of teaching learners to pray, especially ways to develop one's own personal prayer life as an essential step in being effective in this task. We will also look at how cognitive and affective elements this task are addressed in NCEA's religious education assessments.



Fran Rossi Szpilyczyn  
Church of the  
Immaculate Conception

- ➔ Give examples of cognitive and affective indicators of learning to pray.
- ➔ Explain how the task of teaching to pray is both distinct from and related to the task of liturgical education.
- ➔ Identify which of five ways of abiding with Christ we address in our own life and how this may increase current effectiveness in teaching others to pray.

1 p.m. ET  
Register now

7 p.m. ET  
Register now

View the full schedule of NCEA webinars at [www.ncea.org/webinars](http://www.ncea.org/webinars)

## Upcoming Webinars

*Check out these informative and free events!*

#### LIVING THE EUCHARIST WEBINARS



Tuesday

Sept. 23rd

3:00pm EST

REGISTER

## What *Living the Eucharist* Can Do for Your Parish

Presented by Father Frank DeSiano, CSP, and Father Kenneth Boyack, CSP.

*Living the Eucharist* is one of the fastest-growing, most effective, parish-based Lenten programs available. Thousands of parishioners in more than 750 parishes in 70 dioceses in 40 states have participated in *Living the Eucharist's* adult, teen, and family faith-sharing groups, parish activities, and retreats. Parishioners love this program!

This webinar will show you how your parish can benefit from *Living the Eucharist*.

[View More Information.](#)



Tuesday

Oct. 14th

3:00pm EST

REGISTER

Best Practices for  
Implementing  
*Living the Eucharist*  
in Your Parish

October 2nd at 3:00 PM EST



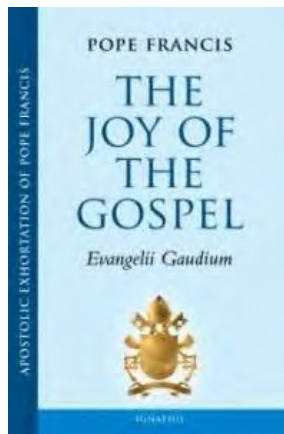


This webinar will provide valuable insights to enable your parish to implement *Living the Eucharist*.

[Register >](#)



## THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL WEBINARS



Join us for a reflective reading and discussion on the major themes of the Pope's Encyclical.

**This will happen over two webinars.**

These will be most helpful for pastors and priests, pastoral associates and catechists, evangelization team members, members of pastoral and financial councils—all in parish leadership and service.

**Part 1 - September 30th at 3:00pm EST**

[Register >](#)

Everyone is talking about it - Pope Francis' church-shaking encyclical on the New Evangelization.

The Pope has so many important directions for all of us—laity and clergy—in terms of living and sharing the Good News. Even if you've already read *The Joy of the Gospel*, join in on the reflections and discussion.

**Part 2 - October 16th at 3:00pm EST**

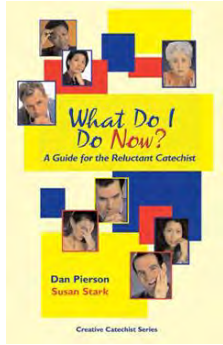
[Register >](#)

## Free webinar series: Building a Better Disciple

The Office for Catechesis of the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois is hosting a free webinar series entitled "Building a Better Disciple". The webinars explore what it means to be a Christian

through the lens of Acts 2:42: "They devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers." The webinars will take place on Monday evenings. More information <http://BuildingABetterDisciple.tumblr.com>.

## Characteristics of Effective Catechists



*The following is from What Do I Do Now? A Guide for the Reluctant Catechist. View sample pages and order from the [Pflaum Publishing Group](#)*

There is a boatload of self-help books that give lists of characteristics shared by effective people, happy people, successful people, popular people—and the lists go on. "What might be a list of some of the characteristics of an effective catechist?" we asked. Below is our list. It certainly is not all-inclusive, but review the list. If you wish, choose one characteristic that can serve as a goal for your development throughout the year. Talk with other catechists, meet with your catechetical leader, read, observe, and practice.

Effective catechists—

- 1. Know and try to master the subject matter.** While it is not necessary to have completed undergraduate studies in theology and education, it is necessary for catechists to grow in their understanding of the content that is being presented. For example, if you are teaching in a fifth-grade classroom that has devoted the entire year to sacraments, read a book or articles that will enrich your understanding of sacraments.
- 2. Know and respect the students.** What are your students' interests? What are their emotional, social, and cognitive abilities? What are the best methods for teaching and learning?
- 3. Have positive expectations for success.** Expect children to participate and learn. As a catechist, "get right down to business," while enthusiastically presenting the content in a caring and structured environment.

**4. Prepare. Prepare. Prepare.** Create your own lesson plan for each session. Never wing it! Use the tools you are given and add what you can. It is a simple equation—the better prepared you are the more effective you will be.

**5. Check for understanding, learning, and application.** Our goal is that by the end of each session the children will know, appreciate, and be able to practice the topic that was presented. Throughout the session ask children to tell you what they heard you say, one thing they will tell their parents, and what they will do in the coming week.

**6. Provide an active and well-ordered learning environment.** Children need and welcome structure, routine, and consistent procedures. Write out your expectations clearly and positively, develop rewards and consequences for positive and negative behavior, and communicate expectations and instructions clearly.

**7. Keep it simple.** Don't get overwhelmed by the topics, information, and activities that are offered with each week's lesson. Be selective. Don't try to do everything. Choose only a few strategies to develop the main message of the lesson.

*You may well come up with other items for the list. Just remember how your faith community is counting on you to strive to be an effective catechist.*



**Saints for the New Evangelization—Free PowerPoint Presentation**

Paprocki/Loyola

**Free Webinar! A New Catechesis for the New Evangelization**



**A New Catechesis for the New Evangelization: New Ardor, Methods, and Expression – A Webinar**

**Facilitator: Joe Paprocki, DMin**

**Brought to you by Loyola Press, A Jesuit Ministry**

**Thursday, October 23, 2014**

**7:00–8:00 p.m. (CT)**



**[Click to register!](#)**

Catechists are at the forefront of the New Evangelization. We are called to “re-propose” the Gospel to the world, relying on an approach that is “new in its ardor, methods, and expression.” (St. John Paul II)

In this Webinar, Joe Paprocki, DMin, will explore what a “new catechesis for the New Evangelization” should look like, using as an example, the newly revised ***Christ Our Life New Evangelization Edition*** (Loyola Press). Joe will also be drawing from his most recent book, *Under the Influence of Jesus: The Transforming Experience of Encountering Christ* and Pope Francis’ book, *The Church of Mercy* to capture and illustrate how catechesis can take on new ardor, methods, and expression.

Joe Paprocki is an author, a speaker, and a longtime catechist in the Archdiocese of Chicago with over 30 years of experience in pastoral ministry. Joe, national consultant for faith formation at Loyola Press, is the author of numerous books, including the best-selling *The Catechist's Toolbox* and *A Well-Built Faith*. He is also the host of the blog [Catechist's Journey](#).

### **Deep Misunderstanding about the Bible by Fr. Robert Barron**

In this YouTube video, Fr. Robert Barron presents a very understandable explanation of why people misunderstand the Bible and why “interpretation” is needed. Click on the photo or use this link:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=htxOjJHB5-8>



### **Biblical Interpretation: Help Faithful to Live in Communion With God**

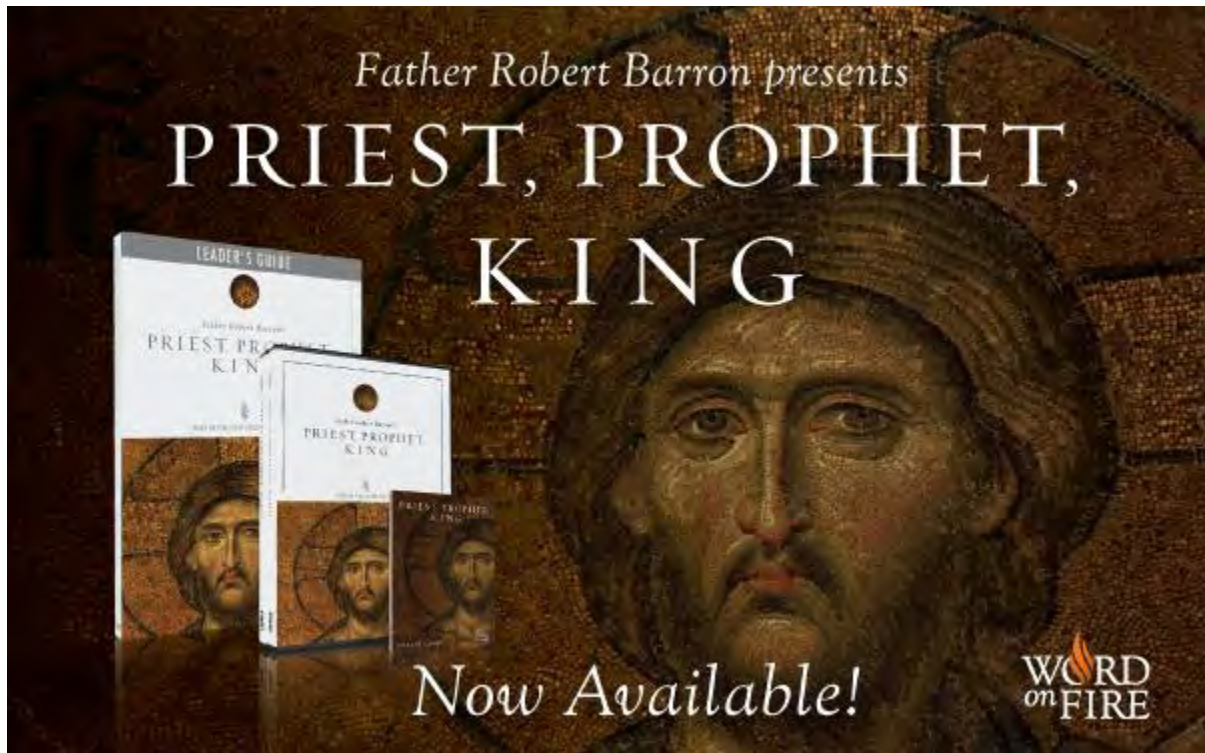
<http://www.news.va/en/news/the-exegete-perceives-the-divine-word-through-a-fe>



At a meeting of the 43rd National Biblical Week, organised by the Italian Biblical Association, Pope Francis expressing his esteem and acknowledgement of the “valuable work” of the Association through the teachings of its lecturers and scholars. He continued, “Faith, to respond, and so as not to be suffocated, must be constantly nurtured by the Word of God. God has made the most of all the possibilities of human language, but at the same time He has had to submit His

Word to the limitations of this language. True respect for the inspired Scriptures requires us to make all the efforts necessary to fully grasp their meaning.” Since it is not possible for every Christian personally to carry out the research necessary to arrive at a good understanding of Biblical texts, he added, “this task is entrusted to exegetes. ... Alongside academic competence, the Catholic exegete needs above all, faith: received from and shared with all believers.”

“First and foremost, exegesis must help Christian people to perceive more clearly the Word of God in these texts, so as to accept it better, to live fully in communion with God.” Returning to the words of St. John Paul II, Pope Francis remarked, “To arrive at a fully valid interpretation of the words inspired by the Holy Spirit... we must ask for love, as love alone makes us able to understand the language of God, which is love”.



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