DIOCESAN OFFICES
The diocesan offices will be closed on Friday, March 5 for an all staff retreat.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS
Lumsden, Rev. Patrick: St. Patrick Rectory, 601 W. 6th St., PO Box 8, Lovilia 50150-0008
New phone: 641-946-8298

Young, Rev. Ron: 2917 Bergamo Way, Sacramento, CA 95833-3760

FROM MSGR. JOHN HYAND, VICAR GENERAL
If you have a framed picture of your church, we would like to hang it in the hallways of the Chancery with other church pictures. You can bring it to me when you come for a meeting, deliver it to a staff member at a meeting or the pastor may bring it to the Clergy Convocation on March 22. We already have: St. John, Burlington; Sacred Heart Cathedral, Davenport; St. Anthony, Davenport; St. Paul, Davenport and St. Wenceslaus, Iowa City.

STEWARDSHIP
Sharing Faith First is a resource that has been added to the stewardship section of the diocesan website. It includes an opening and closing prayer, the text of each Sunday’s Gospel readings and some questions for reflection and/or discussion. This one-page reflection guide has been used as a starting point for many parish and diocesan meetings, such as those of the Diocesan Stewardship Commission. You are welcome to use this resource to begin meetings for your ministry, or as a source of weekly inspiration. Go to www.davenportdiocese.org, click on offices and then click on stewardship.

VOCATIONS OFFICE
Pray for our Bishop, Priests and Diocese: The priests of the Diocese of Davenport will gather around Bishop Amos to celebrate the Chrism Mass on Monday, March 22 at 5 p.m. at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Davenport. All are invited and encouraged to attend this diocesan celebration. If you are unable to be at Sacred Heart Cathedral that day, you are invited and encouraged to join in prayerful solidarity. Please drop by the church anytime during the day or evening on March 22 and spend some time (5, 10, 15 or more minutes) praying for our Bishop Martin, our priests, vocations and the needs of the Diocese of Davenport. If you need prayer materials, please contact Fr. Marty Goetz, goetz@davenportdiocese.org or 563-324-1912, ext. 259.

An “Encounter With God’s Call” retreat will be held April 17-19 at Conception Seminary College in Missouri. This retreat is for young men 16 and older who are considering a vocation to Priesthood. This is an excellent opportunity to meet priests and seminarians as they share their stories of responding to God’s call. This visit is free. For more information, please contact Conception Seminary College, 660-944-2886 or vocations@conception.edu or Fr. Marty Goetz.

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

Current training scheduled (as of February 24):

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>3/07/10</td>
<td>Davenport, Assumption High School</td>
<td>3:00 p.m.</td>
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To report child abuse contact: Iowa Department of Human Services Child Abuse Hotline: 800-362-2178 and if it involves clergy or church personnel also notify Alicia Owens, the Victim Assistance Coordinator, 563-349-5002, or vacdav@attglobal.net or PO Box 232, Bettendorf, IA  52722-0004.
FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Budget: The 2010-2011 budget documents will be emailed early March and will be due August 1.

Bookkeeper’s Manual: The new Bookkeeper’s Manual should have been received by all bookkeepers. We will be setting up training classes of approximately three bookkeepers per session using your own backup from QuickBooks. To register for a class contact Nancy Karn, 563-324-1912, ext. 229 or karn@davenportdiocese.org.

PASTORAL SERVICES

Social Action . . .

“Immigrant Rights and American Values”: Dr. Erik Camayd-Freixas, a federally certified interpreter who translated at federal hearings in Waterloo after the 2008 immigration raid at Agri-Processors, Inc., in Postville will speak to audiences throughout eastern Iowa in March. He will share his reaction to the hearings and the opinions he has expressed before Congress and in numerous essays published in the ensuing months. All programs open to the public at no cost except for the March 10 Noon luncheon

March 8:  7:00 p.m., Clinton at Sisters of St. Francis, The Canticle, 841-13th Ave. North
March 10: 12 Noon, Iowa City, Iowa City Foreign Relations Council luncheon, Congregational Church, 30 N. Clinton St. RSVP by March 8 to icfrc@uiowa.edu or 319-335-0351. Cost: $8 for members and $9 for non-members.
March 10: 7:00 p.m., Cedar Rapids, Flaherty Community Room, Basile Hall, Mount Mercy College, 1330 Elmhurst Drive

St. Vincent Home Corporation Grant: Final reminder that all grants must be postmarked by March 19 for consideration at the spring board meeting. The grant application and criteria are available at http://www.davenportdiocese.org/socialaction/sastvincenthomecorporation.htm. Continuing the mission of the St. Vincent’s Orphanage, the grants are to reach out to children, particularly those in poverty or other special challenges.

Free tax assistance for individuals and families earning less than $45,000 annually is available in Clinton, Davenport, DeWitt and Muscatine. Click on this link for English and Spanish flyers:

Similar help is available through the United Way or other local service agencies. If you are aware of services in your local area, please let us know so that we can help publicize them. Often those most needing the assistance cannot access computers, and need help finding tax assistance. If parishes could join with other local agencies and provide laundromats, drugstores and other places where folks often visit with flyers contain tax assistance information, it would a significant benefit. Many firms that advertize tax assistance with instant refunds are providing what are effectively high interest loans.

The Diocesan Immigration Office has begun making site visits to Ottumwa on the third Thursday of each month by appointment only from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Site visits will continue in Columbus Junction on the first Tuesday. To schedule an appointment or to learn about the services provided contact Karina Garnica, 563-324-1912, ext. 232 or Elliott Rivera, ext 262. Bi-lingual information is available at http://www.davenportdiocese.org/socialaction/socialactionlibrary/saimmigrationflyer-2009.pdf.

SHARE Iowa: Who wouldn’t like to save money on their grocery bill these days? The SHARE Program was begun in Iowa with funding from St. Vincent Home Corporation 16 years ago and can offer you up to a 50% savings on nutritious food packages for just 2 hours of volunteer service each month. Contact www.shareiowa.org or call 800-344-1107.
Retreat for Youth Ministry Leaders: March 7-9 at Our Lady of the Prairie Retreat Center, Wheatland. “Wired to Connect” will be the theme of our annual retreat for youth ministry leaders. Our director will be Chris Edmonds, director of youth ministry for the Diocese of Wichita. Chris will lead us in reflections on our innate need for relationship and help us reflect and re-connect with God, our ministry peers, and ourselves. A registration flyer can be found at http://www.davenportdiocese.org/faithform/fflib/Youth%20Ministry/YM%20Retreats/ YMRetreatFlyer2010.pdf.

Faith Formation Conference: March 14-15, Ames. Ministry at the Margins: The Call to Serve Christ’s Mission Today is sponsored by the four dioceses of Iowa. Keynoter Dr. Edward P. Hahnenberg is a theologian on the staff of Xavier University in Cincinnati. Registration is $75. Additional information and online registration can be found at www.IowaFaithFormation.org.

Junior High Youth Rally: Early registration deadline ($20) is March 5. Final registration deadline ($25) is March 12. The rally will be held Sunday, March 21 at Regina Catholic Education Center in Iowa City. The theme is “J-Walking: Journey with Jesus” and our keynoter will be storyteller and singer Anne Marie Cribbin. The welcome memo and all necessary publicity and registration materials are available at http://www.davenportdiocese.org/faithform/ffyouthrally.htm. Please steer youth to www.davenportyouth.org.

“Catechesis: An Oasis Amidst Diversity,” the annual conference of the National Conference for Catechetical Leadership, will be held April 18-22 at Bally’s Hotel in Las Vegas. For more information, go to www.necl.org.

Catholics in Action is a three-day service retreat that brings together 100 youth and adults from across our diocese. CIA will be held this year June 27-29. Save the date!

Christian Leadership Institute (CLI), a weeklong empowerment experience for high school sophomores, juniors, and seniors, will be held July 25-30 at the Christian Conference Center near Newton. CLI brings together dozens of talented youth every summer for six days to build their leadership skills for service to the church. This year, only one week of CLI will be offered, so save these dates.

August Gathering: August 6, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., St. Patrick Parish, Iowa City. The presenter will be Joe Paprocki, author of “The Bible Blueprint: A Catholic’s Guide to Understanding and Embracing God’s Word.” A registration flyer will be available soon, but save the date!

High School Youth Rally will be held Sunday, Oct. 24, at the Coralville Marriott. The theme is “Finish the Race – Be Exalted!” Our keynoters will be APeX Ministries, featuring the juggling, humor and solid faith message of Gene Monterastelli and Brad Farmer. Registration details will be available soon, but mark the date now!

“March with the Saints,” the National Conference on Catholic Youth Ministry, will be held Dec. 9-12 in New Orleans. For more information, go to www.nfcym.org.

Upcoming Youth Retreats:
- March 12-14: Ottumwa COR (Christ in Others) Retreat at St. Patrick’s Parish in Ottumwa. COR is for youth in grades 10, 11 and 12. For more information, contact Anna Hanson at ottstpatdre@diodav.org or (641) 682-4496.
- March 19-21: DeWitt COR (Christ in Others) Retreat at St. Joseph’s Parish in DeWitt. COR is for youth in grades 10, 11 and 12. For more information, contact Pat Sheil at dewittstjosephym@diodav.org or (563) 659-3514.
- March 26-28: Keota COR (Christ in Others) Retreat at Holy Trinity Parish in Keota. COR is for youth in grades 10, 11 and 12. For more information, contact Georgia Gent at ggent@netins.net.
Marriage Preparation Weekends:
April 24-25: Williamsburg, St. Mary (registration deadline April 16)
June 26-27: Sigourney, St. Mary (registration deadline June 18)
August 14-15: Newton, Sacred Heart (registration deadline August 6)
November 5-6: Muscatine, Bishop Hayes School (registration deadline October 29)

The registration form is on the diocesan website, www.davenportdiocese.org (Faith Formation Office > Marriage Preparation). Registration is $125 per couple. For information about marriage preparation in our diocese or neighboring dioceses contact Barb Butterworth, 563-324-1912, ext. 265 or butterworthb@davenportdiocese.org or IlaMae Hanisch, hanisch@davenportdiocese.org. If your parish is willing to host a weekend (diocese pays all expenses) please contact Barb Butterworth or IlaMae Hanisch.

Ministry Formation Program (MFP):
MFP Year I Basic Classes: Participants are welcome to join at any time. The remaining sessions are:

March 13 & 20: Personal & Pastoral Themes for Ministry
April 10 & 24: Catholicism

Year I for Spanish-speaking Participants: New members are welcome...even if you missed the first class. The next classes meet in West Liberty. Remaining sessions are

Marzo 21: Sacramento del Bautismo
Abril 11: los Sacramentos de la Uncion de los Enfermes/Reconciliacion
Mayo 2: Sacramento del Orden
Junio 12: Catholicismo
Julio 11: Sacramento de la Confirmacion
Agosto 8: Sacramento de la Eucaristia
Septiembre 12: Temas Personales/Pastorales Para el Ministerio

Information for both programs is available at http://www.davenportdiocese.org/faithform/ffmfppg1.htm. For further information contact IlaMae Hanisch, hanisch@davenportdiocese.org or 641-791-3435.

ST. AMBORSUE UNIVERSITY, DAVENPORT
Film Premiere and Panel Discussion on Postville: March 10, 7:00-8:30 p.m., 3rd floor ballroom of the Rogalski Center. This is a premiere screening of the documentary film, In the Shadow of the Raid, with a panel discussion with filmmakers Greg Brosnan and Jennifer Szymaszek and Fr. Oudenkirk from St. Bridget’s parish in Postville. Free and open to the public. For more information contact Dr. Lisa Powell, 563-333-6045, PowellLisaD@sau.edu.

SISTERS OF SAINT FRANCIS, CLINTON
Friday evening, March 19 through Sunday noon, March 21
A silent retreat led by Sisters Mary Smith and Paschal Hocum will heighten your Lenten experience while celebrating the new life of the Spirit. For details & registration go to www.clintonfranciscans.com or call 563-242-7611. Overnight accommodations available/optional.

Lenten Vespers: the Sunday evenings of Lent: February 28, March 7, 14, 21 and 28. Prayers begin at 6:00 p.m. and last about 40 minutes. Vespers includes Scripture, reflection, song and prayer. Please join us!

PEACE SOUP AT PRINCE OF PEACE PARISH, CLINTON
For the 4th year, Prince of Peace Pax Christi is sponsoring “Peace Soup” – a discussion series on the Wednesdays of Lent. We gather at 6 p.m. for a simple soup supper and then share a program. This year, we are focusing on poverty and the gospel call to stand with the poor and marginalized. Each evening will open with shared reflection on the newest encyclical of Pope Benedict XIV, Caritas et Veritate.
On Mar. 3, Ellen Fisher, Cedar Rapids, will discuss international poverty, focusing on the special need of women and children. Ellen is a representative of Bread for the World and Amnesty International and serves with the United Nations Association.
On Mar. 10, Deacon Dr. Art Donart will discuss the role of micro-financing in alleviating poverty at home and abroad including the impact of Fair Trade practices.
On Mar. 17 we will hear from a panel of local persons who work with the impoverished of Clinton including Paula Mallory, Benevolent Society; Shawna Kent, Jefferson School; Reagan Michaelson, Information, Referral and Assistance Service.
On Mar. 24, our speaker will be Jim Ott, school psychologist with the Mississippi Bend Area Education Agency who is actively involved in addressing issues related to poverty as a member of the Bridges Steering Committee and as a participant in Project Hope. Jim has facilitated “Getting Ahead in a Just Gettin’ By World” groups for the past two years. Call the parish office -563-242-3311 - for details. No registration required.

SHALOM RETREAT CENTER, DUBUQUE
For more information or to register, contact Karen Knepper: 563-582-3592, kknepper@shalomretreats.org or visit www.shalomretreats.org.

The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ: A Personal Perspective
Tuesday, March 23, 7:00 – 9:00pm
Facilitator: Margaret Jungers OSF
The mystery and significance of Jesus death will unfold for each of us in a personal way as we view and discuss two short videos on this topic by Ron Rolheiser.
Offering: $8. Register by March 19

SUMMER RETREATS
June 6-12
Meeting the Jesus of Luke, The Spirit of the Lord Is Upon Me!
Director: Dr. Wendy Cotter, CSJ. Offering: $360. Early Bird: $320 until May 6. ($50 deposit)

June 13, 9:00am – 3:00pm
The Christ of the Miracle Stories: Meeting Jesus Downtown
Director: Dr. Wendy Cotter CSJ. Offering: $50. Register by June 10.

June 13-19
The Spirituality of Thomas Merton

June 28-July 3
Dancing with God

July 4-11
The Mirror of My Unseen Face: Using the Parables as a Map for Our Spiritual Journey
Nancy Schreck, OSF. Offering: $400. Early Bird: $375 until June 4. ($50 deposit)

BENET HOUSE RETREAT CENTER, ROCK ISLAND, IL
To register call 309-283-2108 or go online: retreats@smmsisters.org.

“Suffering, Death & Hope: Muslim & Christian Perspectives”: March 8, 7-8:30 p.m. Join us as we compare the ways their different traditions interpret suffering and death, and how they cultivate endurance and hope. Presenters: Cyrus Ali Zargar (Islam) and Dr. Jason Mahn (Christianity), both teach in Augustana College Religion Department, at Benet House. Free will donation.

“The Call to Discipleship”: March 21, 1:45-4 p.m. We will explore the strategy and tactics of Jesus to call people to discipleship and send them on mission, and then consider the profile of discipleship. Presenter: Dr. Anthony Gittins, CSSP, Professor of Theology and Culture at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago. He is author of 18 books, and has served in Sierra Leone, as a missionary pastor and as an anthropological missionary in Africa. $15.

“Holy Week Retreat”: Thursday, April 1, 4 p.m. – Sunday, April 4, noon. Participate with the monastic community in silence, prayer and the solemn liturgies of the Last Supper, Death and Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Spiritual Direction is available for additional fee with Sr. Catherine Cleary, OSB. $150

“Addiction: A Loved One’s Response”: April 14, 7-8:30 p.m. Learn of the breakthrough advances made recently in the field of mental health in general and addiction in particular. Time will be spent on the importance of the
spiritual dimension in treating those affected by these issues. Presenter: Dr. Ted Wolgamot, PhD in Clinical Psychology. $10

“Men’s Retreat: Essential Lessons in Male Spirituality”: April 17, 4:30-9:00 p.m. Join other men in reflecting on the essential truths of life that remain unacknowledged in our culture. Presenters: Rev. Jim Bracke, CSC, Chaplain at St. Mary’s College, South Bend; Dan Ebener, DBA, St. Ambrose University; and Jay Matlock, Ruhl & Ruhl. $25 (includes supper)

OUR LADY OF THE PRAIRIE RETREAT, WHEATLAND
To register, contact Barbara Gross at: 563/336/8414 or e-mail: olpretreat@gmail.com

KNIT ONE, PRAY TOO!
A Day of Knitting, Fellowship & Prayer
Tuesday, April 13 9:30 am - 3:00 pm
Presenters: Ann Green, Anne Johnson, Karen Brooke
Fee: $15.00 – includes lunch

“Everyone seems to be knitting these days . . . its very rhythm encourages contemplation and invites us to be open to the Holy Spirit.” Bring size 11 or 13 knitting needles, 3 six-ounce skeins of yarn (or a project in progress), and join us as we create a prayer shawl, a scarf or a special gift for someone in need of comfort. We will knit and pray together, share “yarns” of our individual journeys, and enjoy the beauty of a spring day at The Prairie.

Target Audience: All knitters, including beginners, women and men

Desert Pilgrim Spiritual Memoir Workshop
Sponsored by the Friends of the Bettendorf Public Library and Our Lady of the Prairie Retreat
Friday, April 16 9:30 am - noon
Presenter: Mary Swander, author and professor
Morning Fee: Free-will offering

The morning program will include readings from her memoir, “The Desert Pilgrim: En Route to Mysticism and Miracles,” and a discussion of the role of women healers through western civilization. Participants will be encouraged to meditate and write a short narrative on the courage and strength they have drawn from their own past experiences, whether physical, emotional or spiritual. Swander, who is also a licensed and certified massage therapist, will discuss the use of some simple herbal remedies and alternative healing techniques.

Mary Swander is the Poet Laureate of the State of Iowa and an award-winning author of 10 books of poetry and non-fiction. She is a professor of English and a distinguished professor of liberal arts and sciences at ISU in Ames, IA. She is on tour this week at the Bettendorf Public Library presenting "Farmscape: Documenting the Changing Rural Environment" on April 14 and "The Girls on the Roof" poetry reading enhanced by puppetry on April 15. She will close the week with us in a rural setting at Our Lady of the Prairie Retreat.

Private Retreat Following the Desert Pilgrim Workshop
Friday, April 16 Noon – 3:00 pm
Lunch will be available for those who wish to spend a quiet afternoon reflecting, writing, walking the prairie trails or the labyrinth.

Fee for lunch and afternoon: $15.00

OUT ON A LIMB
Tuesday, April 20 9:30 am – 3:00 pm
Presenter: Helen Schiltz, M.A.P.S., Spiritual Director
Fee: $15.00 includes lunch

It's spring and all the trees are on the verge of leafing out. While they are still bare we will explore "going out on a limb" for God. When was the last time you were there? Did you follow God willingly? Fearlessly? Or with great trepidation? With stories both personal and from Scripture, with a mix of quiet and conversation, we'll consider all the daily, large and small ways we find ourselves "out on a limb for God." Are you standing at the trunk, clinging to the branch for dear life or enjoying the breeze?

Target Audience: Women of any age
WALK FOR SPIRIT
Wednesday, April 28     9:30 am – 3:30 pm
Presenters: Lisa Martin Bellomy and Joan Sheil, CHM
Fee: $15.00 - includes lunch

Be in the moment—observe the beauty around you and reconnect with yourself. Discover how walking can lead to inner peace, mental focus, and spiritual awareness. After a short warm-up we’ll walk and explore The Prairie trails as a group. Following a healthy lunch break, enjoy a personal journey walking the labyrinth, hiking alone or continuing to explore the trails with new friends.

Walkers should be sure to bring a water bottle (preferably NOT plastic) and appropriate walking shoes. Long pants are recommended. In case of rain, bring appropriate rain gear!

Target Audience: People interested in walking as a spiritual exercise

Spring at Our Lady of the Prairie Retreat is especially beautiful. You will enjoy hospitality and service in an atmosphere of tranquility and splendor. If your schedule does not permit you to attend a scheduled retreat, consider reserving a day or several days for a private retreat. The serene and peaceful setting is ideal for prayer, spiritual renewal and solitude. Arrangements can also be made for using The Prairie facilities for conferences, study groups, seminars and workshops. Our Lady of the Prairie Retreat is a ministry of the Congregation of the Humility of Mary and New Horizons of Faith.

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

Deacons
Diocesan Liturgical Commission
Priests
Diocesan Pastoral Council
Diocesan Planning Commission
Diocesan Corporate Board
Parishes
Principals
Seminarians
Catholic Foundation
Youth Ministers
Parish Lay Directors
Diocesan Board of Education
Directors/Coordinators of Faith Formation
Pastoral Associates
Sisters
Bookkeepers
RCIA Parish Contacts

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