FROM BISHOP AMOS
October 2011

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Three years ago I appointed a Diocesan Planning Commission as an advisory group as we embarked on the development of a strategic plan for the future of the Diocese in the next decade.

The Commission presented the grassroots plans from all the local area planning groups to me on Sunday, October 16, 2011 at a joint meeting of the Diocesan Pastoral Council and Presbyteral Council. The plans included collaborative work done by the Commission, clergy, lay leadership and laity. The amount of prayerful and serious effort that went into the diocesan planning is impressive, and I thank everyone who has worked on this process.

The plans will be important tools for the Priests’ Personnel Board as they recommend the placement of priests in the future. They will be helpful to parishes as they plan for their future as well and for the placement of deacons as a new class is ordained.

Which plans will be used first is not yet known. When we look at priests retiring, dying or moving to new assignments the needs of our parishes must be looked at, and personnel will be put where they can best meet needs.

These plans do not need to wait for “something to happen” before parts of them are put into place. It will be important for the clergy, parish leadership and laity to renew these plans regularly. We must continue to work collaboratively. I encourage all of us to start this as soon as possible.

We are all called to be disciples by our baptism. Some are called to leadership as both ordained and lay ministers. Let us pray for one another, for our diocese and for our many faith-filled leaders.

Again, a sincere thank you for all your efforts.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Rev. Martin Amos
Bishop of Davenport

PARISH COLLABORATION
In Bishop Amos’ letter he refers to the importance of the parish plans and how they will be a guide to parish collaboration. A special workshop to foster a spirit of greater collaboration among parishes is Sunday, November 20, at Saint Patrick Church, Iowa City. Dr. Richard McCorry will present two sessions: “Creating More Welcoming Parishes” from 1-4 p.m.; and ‘Spirituality During Times of Change” from 5-8 p.m. The workshop(s) are free. An optional light supper will also be offered 4-5 p.m. ($7.00 payable at the door). A registration form is attached. Please register by Monday, November 14, by submitting the form or contacting Laurie Hoefling, hoefling@davenportdiocese.org or 563-888-4220.
OFFICES CLOSED
The Diocesan and Catholic Messenger offices will be closed November 24 and 25 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS
Rev. Joseph Khan: 8200 Bolsa Ave. SPC137, Midway City, CA 92655-1239; Home: 714-893-2926

PROTECTING GOD’S CHILDREN
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, Victim Assistance Coordinator, 563-349-5002, or mail to vacdav@attglobal.net or PO Box 232, Bettendorf, IA 52722-0004.

PASTORAL SERVICES

Social Action . . .

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development Annual Collection will be held on November 19-20. The Diocese retains 25% of the proceeds to fight poverty within our own diocese. This year’s theme is Fight Poverty. Defend Human Dignity. All parishes should have received their bulletin inserts as well as posters and envelopes. Please insert your parish bulletin the weekend of November 12-13 and display the poster. If your parish materials did not arrive, you need more materials or have questions contact Loxi Hopkins, hopkins@davenportdiocese.org or 563-324-1911.

Diocesan Immigration Office site visits for Ottumwa and Columbus Junction: The office is making site visits to Ottumwa on the first Tuesday of each month by appointment only from 12:00 - 2:00 p.m. and for Columbus Junction the second Wednesday of each month by appointment only from 9:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. The office helps reunite families split by immigration; helps immigrants adjust their immigration status and advocates on their behalf. For more information regarding the site visits contact the office at 563-324-1911. See the attached brochure for more information and for distribution.

Social Ministry Gathering: February 12-15 in Washington, DC. This year’s theme is Faithful Citizenship: Promoting Human Life, Dignity, and the Common Good. Registration opens later this fall. Msgr. Marvin Mottet, a priest of our diocese will receive the Roundtable Servant of Justice Award during the Roundtable’s Award banquet on February 12 and will address participants at the luncheon before the Catholic Social Ministry Gathering. For more information about the gathering go to http://www.usccb.org/about/justice-peace-and-human-development/catholic-social-ministry-gathering/.

Catholic Relief Services Fair Trade Catalog: The autumn 2011 catalog is now available at the CRS website. For a chance to buy fair trade handcrafts and gourmet food items from disadvantaged producers around the world, go to http://www.wcv2.com/publication/?m=10169&l=1.

Faith Formation . . .

NET (National Evangelization Teams) Ministries will be in our diocese in January to present retreats at parishes and schools. There are two open dates on the NET schedule: January 17 and January 20. More information about NET ministries can be found at http://www.netusa.org/netretreats/. To arrange a retreat for your school or parish, contact Pat Finan at finan@davenportdiocese.org.

The Teens Encounter Christ retreat will be held Feb. 18-20 at St. Ann’s Parish in Long Grove. TEC is a three-day retreat focusing on the Paschal Mystery (dying, rising and going forth to serve Christ). It is for youth in grades 11 and 12, and college freshmen. Registration material will be e-mailed soon to all parish leaders. Adults and young adults wishing to serve on the TEC team should contact Pat Finan at (641) 842-5148 or finan@davenportdiocese.org

2012 Junior High Youth Rally will be March 25 at Regina Catholic Education Center in Iowa City. Our keynoter will be Vince Nims. Go to www.davenportyouth.org or Diocese of Davenport Youth Ministry on Facebook for information on this and all other youth ministry events and programs.
Fr. Ronald Rolheiser will be the speaker for the 2012 Iowa Faith Formation Conference, to be held Saturday, April 14, at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Hiawatha. Fr. Rolheiser, a nationally syndicated columnist featured weekly in The Catholic Messenger, will speak on “Living the Ups and Downs of our Faith: Dark Nights and Doubt, A Failure of Faith or a Failure of Imagination?” The event will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. More information will be forthcoming.

Marriage and Parenting Resource: Attached is the November issue of “Marriage Moments and Parenting Pointers.” This is produced by Susan Vogt and she has excellent resources to support couples and families. Go to her website to review her ample resources: http://www.susanvogt.net/index.html.

Marriage Preparation Weekends:

- November 19-20: Muscatine, SS. Mary & Mathias, registration deadline is November 11
- January 28-29: Bettendorf, St. John Vianney, registration deadline is January 20 (limited to 40 couples)
- February 25-26: Bettendorf, St. John Vianney, registration deadline is February 17 (limited to 40 couples)
- April 28-29: Williamsburg, St. Mary, registration deadline is April 20
- August 11-12: Mount Pleasant, St. Alphonsus, registration deadline is August 3

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, 563-888-4240 or butterworthb@davenportdiocese.org or IlaMae Hanisch, hanisch@davenportdiocese.org.

Ministry Formation Programs (MFP):

MFP is on YouTube: IlaMae Hanisch gives a 13-minute presentation on the Ministry Formation Program and how it can prepare persons wanting to work in church ministry. To view, click on this link: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bXFkk3f6wbg.

If you or someone you know is interested in joining a Ministry Formation Program please contact IlaMae Hanisch, 641-791-3435 or hanisch@davenportdiocese.org. We have an on-site group that meets in Davenport at the Chancery and DVD groups that meet once a month in West Burlington, Iowa City, Davenport and Newton (other locations can be added based on geographic location of participants). The Liturgical Specialization group also meets once a month at the Chancery in Davenport.

You are welcome to join any or all the remaining courses at any time:

**Year I: Basic (English):**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 5 &amp; 19</td>
<td>Holy Orders/Matrimony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 3 &amp; 17</td>
<td>Catholicism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 18 &amp; 25</td>
<td>Eucharist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 21 &amp; 28</td>
<td>Anointing/Reconciliation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 21 &amp; 28</td>
<td>Confirmation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 17 &amp; 24</td>
<td>Personal/Pastoral Themes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Year I: Basic (Spanish):** Ministerio y Ministros Eclesiásticos; Matrimonio; Orden Sacerdotal; El Bautismo; La Reconciliación La Unción de los Enfermos; La Confirmación; La Eucaristía; Catolicismo and Temas Personales Pastorales para el Ministerio.

Sessions will be held at St. James, Washington on the following Sundays, 3-6 p.m.: Nov. 20; March 18; April 22; May 20; June 3; July 15 and Aug. 5. (No sessions in Dec., Jan. and Feb.)

**Liturgy Specialization Track:** Courses and practicum will be held at St. Vincent Center, Davenport, 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. on the following dates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 5</td>
<td>Leading Prayer/Liturgy of the Hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 3</td>
<td>Practicum: Liturgy of the Hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 21</td>
<td>Eucharist II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 18</td>
<td>Practicum: SCAP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 17</td>
<td>Eucharist I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 4</td>
<td>SCAP/Weekday Word &amp; Communion Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 21</td>
<td>RCIA/Triduum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 12</td>
<td>Parish Devotions (intercultural issues/Marian devotions)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 16</td>
<td>Practicum: Devotions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 4</td>
<td>Marriage, Baptism, Reconciliation Services</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

**The Word among Us** (Benet House Retreat Center): Read, reflect, pray and share with other committed Christians seeking to grow in reflecting on the challenges of Scripture for everyday life. We share a new book each month. Presenter: Sr. Charlotte Sonneville, OSB; Mondays each month, Nov. 7 & 21; Fee: $5/session + cost of books or $50 for series + cost of books.

**Centering Prayer** (Benet House Retreat Center): Come and join the Centering Prayer group. This prayer method provides a way to foster a deep relationship with God. Leader: Sr. Catherine Cleary, OSB; Wednesdays, 1-2 pm.

**Spirituality of Work** (Benet House Retreat Center): Reflection on the “Spirituality of Work” helps us better understand the role and importance of work in our lives. Work both expresses and shapes us – by the way we do it, the environment and culture of the workplace and the people with whom we work. Traditional wisdom and contemporary concerns including the ‘ora et labora’ of the monastic tradition and Pope John Paul’s encyclical “On Human Work” will be explored. Presenter: Sr. Helen Carey, OSB, PhD in Philosophy; Mon. Nov. 14, 7-9 pm; Free Will Offering. To register, contact Sr. Jackie Walsh at (309) 283-2108 or retreats@smmsisters.org.

**Day of Thanksgiving: “The Power of Giving Thanks”** (Benet House Retreat Center): Giving thanks to God is more than a Biblical mandate; it is one of God’s greatest gifts. When we give thanks, powerful spiritual and psychic forces are released, which can be released only in thanksgiving. This retreat will gently explore the why, how-to and impact of giving thanks. It will include prayer, Lectio Divina, instruction and small group discussion. Participants will develop their own personal prayer of thanksgiving. Presenter: Hal Green, PhD, is an author, columnist, former pastor, therapist, and a certified teacher of Centering Prayer. Wed. Nov. 16, 9 am-3 pm; Fee: $30 (incl. lunch). To register, contact Sr. Jackie Walsh at (309) 283-2108 or retreats@smmsisters.org.

**SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS, CLINTON**
For more information, call 563-242-7611 or visit www.clintonfranciscans.com.

**Training in Active Nonviolence by the Michigan Peace Team:** On Nov. 12 Rev. Peter Dougherty, founder of Michigan Peace Team, will lead a day-long nonviolence training workshop. The workshop begins at 8:30 a.m. with a continental breakfast and concludes at 5:00 p.m. He will also offer a public presentation on Saturday evening at 7:00 pm. entitled: “Blueprint for a Nonviolent World.” Registration for the day-long workshop is limited to 25 persons. To register call 563-242-7611, or email office@clintonfranciscans.com. A donation is requested to cover the cost of the program and the meals provided.

**Wearing Clothes without Wearing out the Planet:** Nov. 13, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Much of the clothing we purchase every year carries hidden environmental and social costs. Another issue is that clothing sold in the United States is often produced in the developing world, in factories with poor wages and working conditions. Synthetic fibers are derived from nonrenewable petroleum and the manufacturing process can consume a lot of water and energy while generating global warming pollution. Dyes and coatings, too, can generate pollution in their production and application. Learn ways to extend the life of the clothing you do purchase: up-cycling, buying pre-owned clothing, using old clothing to insulate your home, buying local and choosing well-made items that fit well and will survive years of wear (and changing fashion trends). Free and open to the public.

Both programs will be held at The Canticle, home of the Sisters of St. Francis, 841-13th Ave. No., Clinton.
**Stem Cell Research: A Primer for Health Care Professionals**  
Thursday, Nov. 17, 6:30 – 8:30pm  
Presenter Janine M. Idziak, PhD  
This program will educate participants regarding the basic biology of stem cell research, ethical issues that surround stem cell research, and therapeutic successes with stem cells with a focus on the use of non-embryonic stem cells (whose use is NOT ethically controversial).  
Offering: $15, includes hors d'oeuvres & refreshments.  
Register by Nov. 15.  CEUs/CEHs available for additional $8.

**The Path of Simply Being: The Practice of Careful Presence**  
Fri., Nov. 18, 7:00pm – Sat., Nov. 19, 4:30pm  
Reconnect with your true self by bringing mindful, patient and compassionate awareness to understanding all of your experiences. Includes presentations, extensive first-hand meditation and prayerful practice/dialogue.  
Participants will discover the ways they keep themselves stuck in the confusion and suffering of their spinning minds, emotions, and fears.  
Offering: $120.  Commuter: $100.

**Celebrating the Holidays in a New Way…Dinner, Sharing & Prayer for Those Who have Lost a Spouse**  
Thursday, Dec. 1, 5:00 – 8:30pm  
Facilitators: Barbara Meloy Callahan & Marci Blum OSF  
Although holidays are often a difficult time for those who have lost a spouse, being in the company of and sharing with others who have had a similar experience can give new life. Join us for refreshments, conversation and a festive meal followed by Advent Taize prayer hour.  
Offering $22.  Register by Nov. 28.

**Advent Evening for Women: Advent – Singing & Praying in Joyful Expectation**  
Monday, Dec. 5, 6:00 – 9:00pm  
Presenters: Ruth Jackson SVM and Friends  
Join us for a relaxing social and dinner followed by uplifting prayer and song in the chapel.  
Offering: $25.  Register by Nov. 30.

---

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

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

Other interested persons are welcome to subscribe. If you have questions regarding your subscription contact Laurie Hoefling, hoefling@davenportdiocese.org.
Workshops for Parish Leaders and Parishioners
as presented by Dr. Richard McCorry

Sunday, November 20
St. Patrick Church, Iowa City
4330 St. Patrick Drive

Creating More Welcoming Parishes: 1-4 p.m.
Hospitality is manifested in an open and welcoming spirit, a willingness to drop what we are doing and receive the other person when they need us. This is a process, not an event. In 2008, the Emerging Models of Pastoral Leadership Project identified one of the key marks of excellent parishes is that they are welcoming communities. At the same time, pastoral leaders surveyed by The Project reported that this mark of excellence was the one at which they were least successful. This workshop will support pastoral leaders in developing a comprehensive program for creating more welcoming parishes.

Spirituality During Times of Change: 5-8 p.m.
Change is accelerating for both the church and society at breathtaking speed. This presents distinct challenges as well as wonderful opportunities for those who employ a positive spirituality. Many people have a basic lack of understanding of the ever changing nature of life and of our faith tradition, which many of the prophets both heralded and championed. Some operate out of their fear that change will adversely affect their faith life. This session will offer some reflections and provide some spiritual “lifelines” to hold onto while being buffeted by the “winds of change” in this very engaging workshop.

Optional Light Supper: 4-5 p.m. ($7.00 payable at the door)

Dr. Richard McCorry is a nationally renowned presenter and the author of “Dancing with Change, A Spiritual Response to Changes in the Church,” published in 2004 and “Company’s Coming, A Spiritual Process for Creating More Welcoming Parishes,” published in 2008. He is the founder of Embracing Change, a Church change management consulting firm. Dr. McCorry travels the country, working with parishes and dioceses, helping them to develop spiritual approaches to changes in the church. (Visit www.embracing-change.com and www.catholichospitality.com.)

Sponsored by the Diocesan Stewardship Commission of the Diocese of Davenport
For additional information or questions contact Dan Ebener, ebener@davenportdiocese.org, 563-888-4251

Name _____________________________________________
Parish name ___________________________ Parish town ___________________________
Email _____________________________________________

Check all that apply
_____ I will attend Creating More Welcoming Parishes.
_____ I will attend Spirituality During Times of Change.
_____ Yes, I will purchase a light supper.

To register return this form or email the information by Monday, November 14 to
Laurie Hoefling
780 W. Central Park Ave.
Davenport, IA 52804-1901
hoefling@davenportdiocese.org
563-888-4220
Activities/Actividades

• We help immigrants to obtain legal documentation.

• Ayudamos a los inmigrantes a legalizarse

• We refer immigrants to other community services.

• Recomendamos a los inmigrantes a otros servicios comunitarios

• We develop education and outreach programs.

• Desarrollamos programas educativos

• We nurture a community spirit to welcome our newcomers.

• Alimentamos al espíritu comunitario a recibir al nuevo inmigrante

Immigration Program
Programa de Inmigración

Diocese of Davenport
780 West Central Park Avenue
Davenport, IA 52804-1901

Phone/Telefon: 563-324-8119
or
563-324-1911
Fax: 563-888-4383

Office Hours
Horas de Oficina
Monday through Friday
Lunes a Viernes
8 A.M.—4 P.M.

You must have an appointment in advance.
Necesita hacer cita con anticipación.

12—1 P.M.
CLOSED FOR LUNCH
CERRADO DURANTE EL ALMUERZO

September 2011

Immigration Program
Programa de Inmigración

Vision Statement
Declaración Visual

Strengthening our community by welcoming newcomers
Fortaleciendo nuestra comunidad recibiendo a los nuevos inmigrantes.

Mission Statement
Nuestra Misión

To empower immigrants to become more self-sufficient through counseling, education and advocacy
Animamos a inmigrantes a ser más autosuficientes mediante consejería, educación y abogacía

Phone/Telefono:
563-324-8119
or
563-324-1911
Fax: 563-888-4383

Fax:
563-888-4383

Diocese of Davenport
780 West Central Park Avenue
Davenport, IA 52804-1901

Office Hours
Horas de Oficina
Monday through Friday
Lunes a Viernes
8 A.M.—4 P.M.

You must have an appointment in advance.
Necesita hacer cita con anticipación.

12—1 P.M.
CLOSED FOR LUNCH
CERRADO DURANTE EL ALMUERZO

September 2011

Immigration Program
Programa de Inmigración

Vision Statement
Declaración Visual

Strengthening our community by welcoming newcomers
Fortaleciendo nuestra comunidad recibiendo a los nuevos inmigrantes.

Mission Statement
Nuestra Misión

To empower immigrants to become more self-sufficient through counseling, education and advocacy
Animamos a inmigrantes a ser más autosuficientes mediante consejería, educación y abogacía

Phone/Telefono:
563-324-8119
or
563-324-1911
Fax: 563-888-4383

Fax:
563-888-4383

Diocese of Davenport
780 West Central Park Avenue
Davenport, IA 52804-1901

Office Hours
Horas de Oficina
Monday through Friday
Lunes a Viernes
8 A.M.—4 P.M.

You must have an appointment in advance.
Necesita hacer cita con anticipación.

12—1 P.M.
CLOSED FOR LUNCH
CERRADO DURANTE EL ALMUERZO

September 2011

Immigration Program
Programa de Inmigración

Vision Statement
Declaración Visual

Strengthening our community by welcoming newcomers
Fortaleciendo nuestra comunidad recibiendo a los nuevos inmigrantes.

Mission Statement
Nuestra Misión

To empower immigrants to become more self-sufficient through counseling, education and advocacy
Animamos a inmigrantes a ser más autosuficientes mediante consejería, educación y abogacía

Phone/Telefono:
563-324-8119
or
563-324-1911
Fax: 563-888-4383

Fax:
563-888-4383

Diocese of Davenport
780 West Central Park Avenue
Davenport, IA 52804-1901

Office Hours
Horas de Oficina
Monday through Friday
Lunes a Viernes
8 A.M.—4 P.M.

You must have an appointment in advance.
Necesita hacer cita con anticipación.

12—1 P.M.
CLOSED FOR LUNCH
CERRADO DURANTE EL ALMUERZO

September 2011
What is an Immigrant?  
Qué es un Inmigrante?

An immigrant is a person who migrates voluntarily to another country.

Un inmigrante es una persona que emigra voluntariamente a otro país.

In the U.S. an immigrant may be eligible for legal status that can be issued by U.S Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).

En los Estados Unidos un inmigrante puede ser elegible para su estado legal por medio de los servicios de inmigración y Ciudadanía en Estados Unidos.

Examples include:

Work permits, legal residence or even citizenship

Ejemplos:

Permisos de trabajo, residencia legal o hasta la ciudadanía

Cost/Costo

Prices vary depending on the services requested.

Los precios varian según los servicios.

Services Offered  
Ofrecemos Servicios de:

Naturalization/Naturalización
Certificate for Citizenship/Certificado de Ciudadanía
Family –based Petitions/Peticiones Familiares
Replace or Renew Permanent Resident Card/ Remplazar o Renovar su Residencia Permanente
Tourist Visa Invitation/Invitación para Visa de Turista
Removal of Conditional Card/Remover las Condiciones de su Residencia
USCIS Status Inquiries/Cartar al USCIS sobre su Residencia
Adjustment of Status/Ajuste de Estado Legal
Fiancé(e) Visas/Visas Para Prometidos(a)
V-Visa Extensions/Extenciones de Visas V
Consular Processing/Proceso Consular
Immigrant Visas/Visas de Inmigrante
Temporary Protective Status/Protección de Estado Temporal
Employment Authorization/Permiso de Trabajo
Travel Documents/Documentos para viajar
Resources and Referrals/Recomendaciones y Referencias

Call us today  
for an appointment.  
Llámenos hoy para una cita.

563-324-8119
or
563-324-1911

You must  
have an appointment  
in advance for services.

Usted debe tener una cita previa
I offer you these tidbits of wisdom as prayer prompts to remind you (and your constituents) of the sacredness of marriage vows and the value of every child. The commitment to love a spouse forever, and the generous gift of life parents offer a child are indeed spiritual undertakings and cannot be done alone. May the God of Love be with you and your work.

*FOR MORE extended marriage and parenting articles, plus archived Marriage Moments and Parenting Pointers, go to: www.SusanVogt.net

*BLOG: Letting Go... www.SusanVogt.net/blog

*EDUCATORS, LEADERS, & MINISTERS: You are welcome to reprint these MM’s and PP’s in bulletins, newsletters, and on your website with proper credit, ("By Susan Vogt, www.SusanVogt.net") When used on a website, please also link to my website, www.SusanVogt.net

© 2011 Susan Vogt
MAIL: 523 E. Southern Ave., Covington, KY 41015
PHONE: (859) 291-6197, FAX: (859) 291-4742
E-MAIL: SusanVogt@fuse.net
WEBSITE: www.SusanVogt.net

MARRIAGE MOMENTS

441. Nov. 7: "Resplendent and unfading is Wisdom." (Wisdom 6:12) What's the wisest thing you've done so far in your life (other than marrying your beloved)? How is your spouse wise?

442. Nov. 14: Want to get a "quiet spouse" to open up? Try going through old photos together or asking about his/her favorites (like a school memory, a relative, a children's story, childhood friends...)

443. Nov. 21: Whether or not you travel over Thanksgiving, remember those who can't afford a plane ticket, gas, or even a pair of shoes, or don't have a loved one with whom to share the day. Our bounty is not deserved, but a gift. Give some of it away.

444. Nov. 28: "Let there be spaces in your togetherness." (Kahlil Gibran) As wonderful as togetherness is, where do you go to get some space just for yourself? Do you have a special time, place, or hobby that regenerates your spirit?

PARENTING POINTERS

440. Nov. 4: "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife." (Mt 1:20) As the foster father of Jesus, Joseph raised a child not of his own blood line. November is Adoption Month. Might this be a call to you? Consider adoption, foster parenting, or simply mentoring an at risk child.

441. Nov. 11: Nov. 11 is 11-11-'11. Perhaps this coincidence of numbers can remind you of the mystery of how each child can be #1 in your heart, no matter how many you have. For fun, perhaps give your child 11 compliments, hugs, stickers, or M&Ms.

442. Nov. 18: With Thanksgiving approaching, consider how the president pardons a turkey. Is there a relative you need to pardon or make peace with? Perhaps the turkey is you. Forgive yourself.