HOLIDAY CLOSING
The diocesan offices will be closed from noon on December 23 through January 1. Business will resume as usual on Monday, January 4, 2010.

DIRECTORY CHANGES
St. Patrick, Iowa City:
New street address: 4330 St. Patrick Dr. Mailing address remains at PO Box 2776, Iowa City 52245-2776

St. Thomas More (formerly Iowa City)
Fr. Wally Helms
New address: 3000 15th Ave., Coralville 52241

VOCATIONS OFFICE
National Vocation Awareness Week is January 10-16. Materials will be e-mailed to you in the coming days and additional information will be on the Diocesan website soon. There will also be material there for your bulletin.

If you need more vocation posters or would like a copy of the Rosary for Vocations, please contact Fr. Marty Goetz, goetz@davenportdiocese.org or 563-324-1912, ext. 259. And let us remember the words of Pope John Paul II: “The task of promoting vocations should increasingly express a joint commitment of the whole church.”

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION
The Employee Handbook from diocesan entities is due December 31. The master template can be found at this link, http://www.davenportdiocese.org/finance/finlibrary.htm. The parish council, finance council, and board of education/faith formation need to review the handbook and the trustees are to sign a corporate resolution. Send the following to Bishop Amos for his approval by December 31:
1. An electronic file of the handbook, bishop@davenportdiocese.org
2. The original copy of the corporate resolution by US mail

Calendar Year-End Filing Requirements: As the end of the calendar year approaches, you are reminded of the following required annual filings:

- **Donations** – Provide donors with written confirmation for all contributions by January 31.
- **Payroll** – Furnish each employee a completed W-2 by January 31. File the W-3 transmittal form with the Social Security Administration by February 28.
- **Non-Payroll Payments** – Provide individuals or entities to whom you made payments of $600 or more during the calendar year for services, rents, commissions, fees or other non-employee payments with Form 1099 by January 31. File copy A of each Form 1099 with the IRS by February 28.

A more complete description of these annual filings, along with instructions for reconciliation between the W-2s, W-3 and the quarterly Form 941 will be sent to the pastors and bookkeepers in mid-December. For additional information contact Nancy Karn, karn@davenportdiocese.org or 563-324-1912, ext. 229.

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 November 25):

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>12/09/09</td>
<td>Richland, SS. Joseph &amp; Cabrini Church</td>
<td>6:30 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.

**PASTORAL SERVICES**

**Social Action . . .**

**Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) Collection:** Thank-you for your support of the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. If you missed the collection, it isn’t too late to give a check to your parish marked CCHD. This collection helps people out of poverty.

**Las Posadas Project:** Las Posadas means “the inns” or “the shelters” in Spanish. This is a religious and social celebration that takes place for nine nights, from December 16-24, and commemorates the journey of Joseph and Mary to Bethlehem and their search for shelter prior to the birth of Christ. The Las Posadas Project is a step in promoting Las Posadas and advocating for greater compassion towards immigrants. In September the Project gave DVD copies of Posada to over 4,500 organizations and parishes to help support this project by showing the video during Advent starting on December 16. The diocese has a copy if any parish would like to show the video and did not receive a copy. Contact Kent Ferris at ferris@davenportdiocese.org or 563-324-1912, ext. 269.

**2010 National Migration Week** will be held January 3 – 9. This year we are again using the theme “Renewing Hope, Seeking Justice.” A wide variety of resources, both in English and Spanish, are available through the USCCB Publishing Office: 800-235-8722 or http://www.usccbpublishing.org, catalog, Migration and Refugee Services.

**Operation Rice Bowl:** Order cards were mailed to all parishes in early October. If parishes did not use this card to order, they may do so by going to http://orb.crs.org/ and clicking on “order” at the top of the page or calling 1-800-222-0025. Orders will ship in early January, six weeks before Lent.

**2010 Legislative Priorities:** The Iowa Catholic Conference has education, families and children, pro-life, environmental issues, health care, immigration, and rural life as its priorities for the 2010 legislative session. For a detailed brochure regarding these concerns go to www.iowacatholicconference.org or contact Esmeralda Guerrero, guerrero@davenportdiocese.org or 563-324-1912, ext. 289.

**The Annual Catholic Social Ministry Gathering** will be held February 7-10 in Washington, DC. The theme for the 2010 Gathering will be Charity in Truth: Seeking the Common Good. Please take advantage of the early registration discount and register by December 15 if interested in attending. For more information go to http://www.usccb.org/jphd/csmg/index.shtml.

**The Diocesan Immigration Program** helps reunite families split by immigration, helps immigrants adjust their immigration status and advocates on their behalf. Appointments are held in the Chancery. Beginning in January, site visits to Oskaloosa will end, but will begin in Ottumwa on the third Thursday of each month by appointment only. Site visits will continue in Columbus Junction on the first Tuesday. To schedule an appointment or to learn more about the services provided contact Karina Garnica, 563-324-1912, ext. 232. For bi-lingual information go to http://www.davenportdiocese.org/socialaction/socialactionlibrary/saimmigrationflyer-2009.pdf.

**2010 St. Vincent Home Corporation Grants** must be postmarked by March 19 for consideration at the spring board meeting. All applications must be postmarked by that date. To be consistent with its purpose, the St. Vincent Home Corporation will focus on those projects that assist children who are in the greatest need. Projects that address children in general should explain the extent to which the project also supports children who have special needs, such as poverty, family breakdown or other disadvantage. The grant application and criteria are available at http://www.davenportdiocese.org/socialaction/sastvincenthomecorporation.htm. Please note important changes in the criteria.

If you received a grant in 2008 or 2009 you must also submit your progress report by March 19. New funding applications will not be considered until Progress Reports regarding previously awarded grants have been submitted. For questions or information contact Loxi Hopkins, hopkins@davenportdiocese.org or 563-324-1912, ext. 246.
SHARE Iowa: Who wouldn’t like to save money on their grocery bill these days? The SHARE Program began 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.

Faith Formation . . .

Upcoming Youth Retreats:

- Feb. 13-15: TEC (Teens Encounter Christ) Retreat, location in or near Davenport to be determined. TEC helps older youth (11th and 12th graders; college freshmen also welcome) explore their faith in the context of the Paschal Mystery. For more information, contact Pat Finan at finan@davenportdiocese.org or 641-842-5148.
- Feb. 27-28: Quest Retreat at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Bettendorf. Quest is a retreat for 9th and 10th graders. This is the only Quest scheduled in our diocese in 2010. For more information, contact Joyce Kloft at bettlourdesdre@diodav.org or 563-359-0345.
- 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. 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 or 319-639-2550.

Junior High Youth Rally Sunday, March 21, at Regina Catholic Education Center in Iowa City. The theme is “J-Walking: Journeying with Jesus”. Keynoter will be Anne Marie Cribbin, teller of funny faith stories and singer of strange songs. Registration material, T-shirt design and other details will be available later this month. For more information, go to www.davenportyouth.org.

Statewide Faith Formation Conference: “Ministry at the Margins: The Call to Serve Christ’s Mission Today,” March 14-15 at the Gateway Hotel and Conference Center in Ames. Keynoter Dr. Edward P. Hahnenberg is a theologian on the staff of Xavier University in Cincinnati. More information, including online registration opportunities, will be available soon at www.davenportdiocese.org.

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.

High School Youth Rally will be held Sunday, Oct. 24, at the Coralville Marriott. 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!

Upcoming National Ministry Conferences:
Parish faith formation and youth ministry leaders are encouraged to consider attending these events for their professional development (scholarships and discounts often are available):

- “Fashion Me a People” Conference, January 7-9 in Orlando. “The Word of God for All Ages” is the theme of this third annual national conference focusing on lifelong faith formation. Join keynoters such as Dr. Barbara Sutton, Sr. Diane Bergant, CSA, and Fr. Mark McCormick, along with musical guests including Steve Angrisano, Sarah Hart, ValLimar Jansen and Dan Schutte. For registration information, discounts and other details, go to www.cmdnet.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.nccl.org.
**Marriage Preparation Weekends:**

- **February 20-21:** Bettendorf, St. John Vianney (registration deadline February 12)
- **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)

The registration form is on the diocesan website, [www.davenportdiocese.org](http://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):**

**The Ministry Formation Program is expanding to include a program for Spanish-speaking participants.**

For the first time, during 2010-2011, we will offer the Basic two-year MFP in Spanish. Classes begin in January and will meet monthly on Sundays, 3:00-6:00 p.m., in St Joseph’s Church basement in West Liberty. Class dates are January 10, February 21, March 21, April 11, May 2, June 13, July 11, August 8, and September 12. The next two-year program, 2012-2013, will be held in another location in the diocese. We hope to offer the program each year and move the location every two years.

We are grateful for the help of several priests, religious women, and lay ecclesial ministers who will teach the courses. The on-site facilitator is Matt McAndrew, who recently completed five years in ministry formation.

Brochures and applications are available by contacting IlaMae Hanisch, hanisch@davenportdiocese.org, Matt McAndrew, 906 12th Ave., Coralville, IA 52241-1735 or Karina Garnica, 563-324-1912, ext. 232.

As needs in the Church and our diocese change, so does the formation program designed to form leaders for ministry in the Church. Since 1997, specialization programs have been added to the Basic two-year process for 1) catechetical leaders, 2) liturgical leaders, 3) pastoral associates, 4) finance administrators, and 5) parish life administrators. Year I in the Basic MFP is also a prerequisite for the diaconate.

**El Programa de Formación del Ministerio ahora se ofrece en Español**


Por primera vez, ofreceremos el año II básico MFP en español. Las clases serán los Domingos por la tarde de 3:00 p.m. a 6:00 p.m. una vez por mes en el sótano la Iglesia de St. Joseph en la ciudad de West Liberty empezando en el mes de Enero. El programa se llevará a cabo en la ciudad de West Liberty por dos años 2010-2011. Los próximos dos años se llevaran a cabo en otra localidad de la diocesis durante el 2012-2013. Esperamos ofrecer el programa cada año y cambiarlo de localidad cada dos años a otra area de la Diocesis. Las clases serán en Enero 10, Febrero 21, Marzo 21, Abril 11, Mayo 2, Junio 13, Julio 11, Agosto 8, Septiembre 12.

Estamos muy agradecidos por la ayuda de varios sacerdotes, religiosas y ministros laicos eclesiasticos quienes ayudaran en los cursos en Español. Uno de los promotores es Matt McAndrew quien recientemente completo cinco años de Formación del Ministerio.

Panfletos y solicitudes estan disponibles comunicándose con IlaMae Hanisch hanisch@davenportdiocese.org o Matt McAndrew, 906 12th Ave., Coralville, IA 52241-1735 o llamándo a Karina Garnica 563-324-1912, ext. 232
MFP Year I Basic Classes: Participants are welcome to join at any time. There are two options for attending: 1) Two Saturdays per month on the following dates with instruction via the ICN [Iowa Communications Network] or 2) Once a month (location and time TBD). The remaining sessions are:

- Dec. 5 & 19: Anointing & Reconciliation
- Jan. 16 & 23: Confirmation
- Feb. 6 & 20: Eucharist
- March 6 & 20: Personal & Pastoral Themes for Ministry
- April 10 & 24: Catholicism

Information including overview, application, and schedule is available for download at http://www.davenportdiocese.org/faithform/ffmfppg1.htm. Select Basic MFP Info Packet 2009-10. A brochure can be found at, www.davenportdiocese.org, faith formation office, Ministry Formation Program. If you would like full-color brochures for distribution contact Barb Butterworth, butterworthb@davenportdiocese.org. For further information contact IlaMae Hanisch, hanisch@davenportdiocese.org or 641-791-3435.

HOPE AND HEALING MINISTRIES®
Hope and Healing Ministries is a 501 (c) (3) ministry that offers healing retreats with counseling services, counseling referrals, toll-free hotline, support groups, healing prayer, mentoring, and educational seminars to women and men (including family members) who are struggling with the emotional or spiritual pain of an abortion or sexual abuse. Services were created to help one experience the mercy, compassion, and love of God while providing an opportunity to surface and release feelings of anger, shame, guilt and grief in a safe setting.

A Rachel’s Vineyard weekend retreat for spiritual and emotional healing after abortion will be held in Lake Geneva, WI in February and April. The confidential, supportive retreat is for anyone hurting inside after abortion. For more information, to donate, or volunteer call 563-322-1645, or email hopeandhealingtoday@gmail.com. Scholarships are available. You can also visit www.rachelsvineyard.org, or call a toll-free hotline at 1-877-896-HOPE.

CONTEMPLATIVE OUTREACH OF EASTERN IOWA
Centering Prayer Advent Retreat: December 5, 9:00 – 3:30 p.m., St. Andrew Church, Blue Grass. $15 per person. This retreat is for those who have attended an Introduction to Centering Prayer workshop or have been Centering for some time. Registration due by December 4. Call 563-285-7242.

SISTERS OF HUMILITY, DAVENPORT
No Impact Man Holiday Screening Spectacular, December 7, 6:30 p.m., Humility of Mary Center, 820 West Central Park Avenue, Davenport. No Impact Man tells the story of Colin Beavan’s decision to completely eliminate his personal impact on the environment for a full year. For him it means eating vegetarian, buying only local food, and turning off the refrigerator. Also, no elevators, television, cars, busses, or airplanes, toxic cleaning products, electricity, material consumption, and garbage. After the screening there will be a discussion about how we can reduce our consumption, spend less, put the fun back into the holiday season and get more of what matters out of it. In addition, a Holiday Swap Meet will take place. Everyone is invited to bring a gently used (or never used) item to trade for items that fit your gift list. Leftover items will be donated to Humility of Mary Housing and Shelter programs. If you plan to attend, it is not necessary but most appreciated if you RSVP at http://bit.ly/3WDmB1. While there view a trailer of the No Impact Man movie. For more information contact call 563-323-9466.

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

Advent Day of Prayer: “They Shall Name Him Emmanuel: God With Us”: December 10, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Prepare for Christmas with reflection, quiet and discussion on the birth of Christ. $30 including lunch. Presenter: Sr. Catherine Cleary, OSB, MA in Theology.

Evening at the Monastery: January 7, 4:45-7:45 p.m., $15. Enjoy Vespers and dinner with the monastic community followed by reflection and sharing on Scripture and the monastic way of life. Presenter: Sr. Charlotte Sonneville
**Book Club: A Spirituality of Kinship:** Thursdays, 9:30-11 a.m. for 6 weeks beginning January 14, $5/session or $25 for the series. Using the book *Compassion* by Henri Nouwen, we will reflect on the challenge of being a Christian in a difficult time. Presenter: Sr. Helen Carey.

**Directed Retreat: Come to Know the Mysteries of Christ Jesus:** January 17, 4 p.m. – January 20, 5 p.m., $225. Reflect on the experience of God in your life through prayer, solitude and quiet during this silent retreat. Meet daily with one of the following certified spiritual directors.

**Surprised by the Spirit:** January 22, 7 p.m. – January 23, 7 p.m.  $95 private room, $85 shared room. Focus on the surprising and unexpected guidance of the Holy Spirit in the challenges of life. Join Sr. Bobbi Bussan, OSB, Fran and Marilyn Riley and members of the monthly ‘Challenge’ support group.

**Women In The Early Church:** January 23, 9 a.m.-Noon with option of staying for lunch. Conference $20 + lunch $7 = $27. Dr. Ritva Williams (Augustana College) will explore the roles of women in the early Church and how it evolved in the Greco-roman World

**SHALOM RETREAT CENTER, DUBUQUE**
To register, call 563-582-3592 or visit [www.shalomretreats.org](http://www.shalomretreats.org) for details.

**Finding and Becoming Peace in a Troubled World Weekend Retreat**
Dec. 4, 2009; 7:00pm – Dec. 6, 2009, 1:00pm. Director: Dan Crosby, OFM.CAP, St. Anthony Retreat Center, Marathon, WI. We live in a world that seems increasingly violent and full of hatred. We long for peace—for ourselves, our families, our world. How do we discover the “peace the world cannot give” and then become bearers of that gift to those around us? This retreat will open up ways to satisfy these longings and hopes that we share with others throughout the world. Commuter: $115, overnight: $130. Register by December 2.

**Otherwise the Darkness: An Advent Time of Renewal**
Sunday, Dec. 13, 10:00am - 4:00pm. Presenter: Nancy Schreck, OSF, D.M., President, Sisters of St. Francis, Educator & Facilitator for Groups Worldwide. Join us for a day to reflect on what God wants to do for us and how we might participate in giving birth. Explores Advent scriptures/themes and includes quiet times for personal reflection. Eucharistic Liturgy at 3:00 p.m. Offering: $40. Register by December 8.

**SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS, CLINTON**
To register contact Sr. Mary Smith, 563-242-7903, ext. 1369, [www.clintonfranciscans.com/Retreats](http://www.clintonfranciscans.com/Retreats)

**Advent Retreat: Nourishing an Attitude of Gratitude**
Dec. 4, 6:30 pm, through 4:00 pm, Dec. 5. Led by Clinton Franciscan Sisters Mary Smith and Paschal Hocum, the retreat experience includes silence, presentations, creative sharing, and contemplative prayer in the quiet beauty and renewing power of The Canticle. Cost: (including overnight accommodations and meals) $50. Should you wish, come early, join us for Eucharistic Liturgy at 9:00 am Friday and spend the day in quiet. Cost: $60.00. If you cannot spend the night but wish to attend the retreat the cost is $30. Scholarships available.

**Personal Retreats and Days of Rest and Solitude**
The Canticle offers a serene place for a day or two of quiet reflection, the opportunity to pray with the Sisters, or seek spiritual direction. Please call to reserve a time for spiritual refreshment.

**A New Year’s Eve Retreat**
Check in time: Thursday, December 31, 4:00 pm with dinner at 5:00. The evening will include brief presentations on the gift of stillness that creates love, and on the movement that creates life…and perhaps a bit of dance! Concludes at 10:00 pm with refreshments and early welcoming of the New Year. Our retreat will close with prayer together the following morning. Cost: $20, overnight stay is optional.

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.