OFFICE OF EVANGELIZATION

Emmaus- Will You Walk With Me? How can we grow in faith and strengthen our community in this time of distance? Bishop Zinkula and Vision 2020 invite you and your friends to journey with Christ through the Emmaus small group initiative. Emmaus is a way for Catholics across the diocese to encounter Christ in one another in a very personal way. Materials from the “Discipleship Quads” program from Franciscan University are now available. Parishioners are encouraged to form their own groups. The program is free and available in both English and Spanish. Instructions to help set up electronic meetings are included. Everything you need can be found here: www.davenportdiocese.org/emmaus. Also available is a 15-minute YouTube explanation of the Emmaus Initiative, Presentation about Emmaus.

VOCATIONS OFFICE

Project Andrew Dinner: December 9, 7:00 p.m. Fr. Ross Epping and Bishop Zinkula will be hosting an online Project Andrew via Zoom. Do you have young men in your parish, your high school, your college, who might benefit from learning more about the priesthood? Our Project Andrew is open to any young man who is currently in their junior or senior year of high school and any year in college. Please give this some thoughtful prayer as you consider who you might personally invite to join us. Pastors who do invite young men are encouraged to join us that evening. When you do have a young man committed, please forward their name and email address to eppingr@diodav.org.

LITURGY OFFICE

- The December LiturgyNotes may be found here.

SOCIAL ACTION OFFICE

Lunch and Learn Session: The Role of the St. Martin De Porres Society in our Diocese, Thursday, December 3, 12:00-1:00 p.m. Thomas Mason, IV of the St. Martin De Porres Society at Sacred Heart Cathedral will talk about the history and role of this organization and what members see as their mission in the Diocese going forward. The presentation will last 25-30 minutes followed by group discussion until 1:00 PM. You are welcome to stay as long as your schedule allows. Register here.

Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) Collection: Thank you for participating in this year’s collection. If you missed the collection, you may make your donation with a check payable to the Diocese of Davenport and marked CCHD Collection. You may submit it to your parish or mail it directly to the Diocese of Davenport, 780 West Central Park Ave., Davenport IA 52804-1901. Remember, 25% of the funds will stay in our diocese for antipoverty projects!

World Day of Peace (Jan. 1): For resources and information click here.

Poverty Awareness Month is January 1-31 and is a call to attention to poverty in America. Please join the US bishops and CCHD and the Catholic Community in the United States to live in solidarity with the poor. For many resources, including a printable calendar with information and links for study and reflection materials, visit the USCCB Poverty Awareness Page.
9 Days for Life: January 21-29. This is an annual period of prayer and actions focused on cherishing the gift of every person’s life.

Catholic Social Ministry Virtual Gathering: February 6-9. This is an annual major Gathering organized by the Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development in collaboration with 10 other USCCB departments and 16 national Catholic organizations. Visit USCCB website for registration information.

CRS Rice Bowl Collection begins Ash Wednesday, February 17
- Rice Bowl Collection Kick-Off, Thursday, January 7, 12:00-1:00 p.m. More information to come.
- Place your order for your free CRS Rice Bowl materials by calling 800-222-0025 or returning the postcard that was mailed to your parish. Materials will be shipped in early January. Please do not use the materials from previous collections as the featured countries changes yearly. Countries featured for 2021 are Madagascar, El Salvador and Timor –Lester
- Possible Virtual Activities
  ✓ If you cannot distribute CRS Rice Bowls due to COVID-19, please encourage families to visit crsricebowl.org/families to print a do-it-yourself CRS Rice Bowl label for their container.
  ✓ Host a drive thru Rice Bowl pick-up event.
  ✓ Consider virtual kickoff events in your diocese. See the virtual tip page
- The theme for this year is Lord, when did we see you? - Matthew 25:38. Video

CRS - Give a Gift of Hope this Holiday Season: The holiday season has begun. You can make a life changing difference this holiday season for families around the world. Please share your blessings with our brothers and sisters around the world who are facing hunger and poverty by giving them a Gift of Hope.

Support Small Fair Trade shops during this holiday season. Your support is very important during these challenging times. Fair trade shops located in our diocese are The Work of Our Hands, Pella and Ten Thousand Villages, Iowa City.

New Resource for Walking with Moms: The Secretariat of Pro-life Activities has posted a one-hour webinar that explains how you can help vulnerable pregnant and parenting women in your community through a year of service called “Walking with Moms in Need (English | Spanish).” The video takes you through the action guide and explains how you can make a difference for pregnant and parenting moms and their children.

Stay Informed: The Social Action Office has a variety of tools to keep you informed of relevant issues and activities. Our tools are:
- Two Feet Newsletter, distributed monthly via email. If you would like to read previous issues or subscribe go here: http://bit.ly/TwoFeetNewsletter.
- Google Groups: For more information contact Amy Kersten, kerstena@diodav.org or 563-888-4210.
  o Social Action Advocacy: Addressing legislative advocacy on social issues of concern to the Catholic Church and encouraging faithful citizenship.
  o Parish Social Action: Provides resources, ideas and opportunities for parishioners to live out their faith working for charity and justice.
  o NEW Voices for Rural Life: Educate, share concerns and suggest advocacy opportunities related to life in rural Iowa.

Project Rachel Special Request: We are asking all parishes to assist us with the promotion of Project Rachel. Please consider placing Project Rachel in bulletin inserts on a quarterly basis. A sample bulletin announcement can be found here, under resources. Other resources available for your parish to assist with the promotion are:
- Peace Starts Here brochure
- How to talk to a friend who has had an abortion brochure
- Banners: The Office of Social Action has three banners for parishes to use to help promote Project Rachel Ministry. If you would like to reserve banners for your parish please contact the Office of Social Action at guerrerod@davenportdiocese.org.

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**FAITH FORMATION OFFICE**

**Adult Formation**

**Making Evangelization a Priority in Parish Life:** Tuesday, January 12, 7:00-8:30 p.m. Our team of presenters will help us explore how faith formation, liturgy and parish life can form disciples that are well-equipped and energized to be Christ’s witnesses in the world. More than a webinar, this workshop actively engages participants in the conversation with no microphone or camera required. Cost of the workshop is $15 by December 28. Discounts available if you register for the entire Virtual Workshop Series! Visit our [website](#), register [online](#) or contact Rosina Hendrickson, 563-888-4244 for more information.

**Teaching Your Students about Mass and Discipleship:** Tuesday, January 26, 10:00-11:30 a.m. Our team of presenters will help us explore how we can, and must, echo to our students our own faith as liturgical disciples, who gather weekly at Eucharist and are sent forth in mission. More than a webinar, this workshop actively engages participants in the conversation with no microphone or camera required. Cost of the workshop is $15 by January 15. Discounts available if you register for the entire Virtual Workshop Series! Visit our [website](#), register [online](#) or contact Rosina Hendrickson, 563-888-4244 for more information.

**Online Formation through STEP at Notre Dame:** The Diocese has partnered with STEP at the University of Notre Dame to offer online formation for parishioners. Courses are offered on a variety of topics and no prior formation is necessary. **Core Course: Introduction to the Catholic Faith** is a great course for catechists and adults desiring to deepen their knowledge of the faith. The next session of courses begins January 4. [Click here for a list of courses](#). Cost is $74.25 per course after diocesan discount. Additional scholarships are available. For more information on the courses or scholarship opportunities, contact Rosina Hendrickson, 563-888-4244 or visit our [website](#).

**Diocesan Lenten Retreat:** **Praying the Psalms on the Way of the Cross:** Virtually gather with parishioners from across the diocese on Saturday, March 27, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. to meditate on the Stations of the Cross in a different way. You are invited to virtually gather and reflect on Jesus’ Way of the Cross by using the same prayers he used in his life: the Book of Psalms. Participants will draw from their own spiritual journeys to actively consider the role of the Cross and the implications it has for living out a life of discipleship in our complex, modern world. This virtual retreat is perfect for the busy individual who would still like to treat themselves to some spiritual nourishment. No camera or microphone needed! Register [online](#) by March 8 for early-bird pricing of $20! Visit our [website](#) or contact Rosina Hendrickson, 563-888-4244 for more information.

**Marriage and Family**

**Save the Dates – Evangelization in the Domestic Church Free Training for Ministry Leaders:** Friday, January 22, 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and continuing weekly through February 11. Join Gregory and Lisa Popcak live via Zoom as they present practical strategies for helping families of all shapes and sizes grow as a domestic church. All ministry leaders are highly encouraged to attend this series of instruction. Registration link will be posted in the January edition of the Mini Messenger. Contact: Marianne Agnoli

**Save the Date – Safe Haven Sunday (Year 2) – March 13-14:** Please mark your calendars to participate in the second year of our diocesan Safe Haven campaign to help individuals and families navigate online exposure to pornography. Materials for parishes and schools are being curated to offer increased access to virtual resources during the pandemic. Additional information and resource updates will be available soon on the [Diocese of Davenport Safe Haven webpage](#). Contact: Marianne Agnoli

**Winning the Battle: Helping Pastors, Youth Ministers & Parents Find Victory Over Pornography:** Watch and share the link to this RAAP webinar recorded in November, presenting the reality of the pornography problem among teens and young adults within the faith community and offering practical steps that ministry leaders and parents can take to support teens and young adults under their care.

**Virtual Marriage Preparation Workshops:** Until further notice all diocesan marriage preparation workshops previously held in person will take place virtually via Zoom. The following Saturday dates have been scheduled for the first half of 2021: **January 16, March 6, and May 1.** Registration information can be found on the diocesan [Marriage Preparation webpage](#).
PROTECTING GOD’S CHILDREN
To report child abuse call the Iowa Attorney General Clergy Abuse hotline at 855-620-7000 (M-F, 8 am.-4:30 pm.) to speak with a trained advocate or the Iowa Department of Human Services Child Abuse Hotline: 800-362-2178. If it involves clergy or church personnel also notify Alicia Owens, Victim Assistance Coordinator: 563-349-5002, vac@diodav.org or PO Box 232, Bettendorf, IA 52722-0004.

OUR LADY OF THE PRAIRIE RETREAT, WHEATLAND
To register contact: 563-336-8414 or olpretreat@gmail.com. To learn more about these programs and Our Lady of the Prairie Retreat visit www.theprairieretreat.org.

December 1 & 8: Mary & Me: Integrating Mary’s Magnificat: 6:30pm – 8:00pm. Free Online

December 4: Advent Day of Reflection: Resting in God: 9:00am – 4:00pm. Free Online:

December 8: Come to the Quiet: Celebrating Divine Incarnation: 9:30am – 3:30 pm. Free Online

BENET HOUSE RETREAT CENTER, ROCK ISLAND, IL
Benet House will remain closed through March 2021. To register for the following contact Sr. Jackie Walsh, OSB at 309-283-2108, retreats@smmsisters.org or online at http://www.smmsisters.org/retreats/retreats-and-programs.

Virtual Offerings:
For additional information about these go to https://www.smmsisters.org/assets/uploads/SMM_BH_Retreat_v2.pdf

Advent 30: Music Reflection from Musician Monica Brown: Energize your Advent experience with Friday morning 30-minute reflection with music and images. Retreat Leader: Sr. Bobbi Bussan, OSB. Fee: $15/series; Dates/themes: Dec. 4: (Bring Us Home); Dec. 11: (Comfort My People); Dec. 18: (Tear the Heavens Asunder)

Silent Directed Retreat: “What do you see?” (Jn 1:35-42): Fri. Jan. 15-Mon. Jan. 18; 3-day retreat; Fee: $180; or Fri. Jan. 15-Wed. Jan. 20; 5-day retreat; Fee: $270. Spiritual Directors: Sr. Margaret Murphy, OSB; Sr. Mary Schmidt, OSB; Toni Petersen, SMM Oblate; Sr. Kathy Sadler, OSF.

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

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