Annual New Evangelization conference expanding, focusing on accompaniment

By Sarah DeMott

Due to growing interest in the topics surrounding the new evangelization, the annual diocesan New Evangelization Conference will become the New Evangelization Convocation, changing locations, expanding to two days and diversifying to include breakout sessions covering a larger variety of topics.

“There is a clear need and desire for training in how to evangelize,” said Jamin Herold, Associate Director for New Evangelization and event organizer. “We want to provide this unique opportunity to everyone in the Diocese, regardless of ministry, toward a common goal — bringing the love of Christ to all.”

Tied to the Year of Mercy, this year’s theme will be “The Art of Accompaniment.” The Convocation will be held at Hackett Catholic Prep in Kalamazoo on October 21 and 22.

“The ‘Art of Accompaniment’ theme comes from the writings and talks of Pope Francis, especially around the Year of Mercy,” says Herold. “Pope Francis has asked that we accompany people on their journey of faith. This means we need to not only meet people where they are, we need to walk with them, we need to seek what is best for them and we need to be a part of their conversion. The Convocation will focus on why we need to do this and some practical ways to do it.”

This year’s keynote will be Kristin Bird from Burning Hearts Disciples, an apostolate of the Diocese of Green Bay (Wis.) focusing on new evangelization through accompaniment. Their vision is to, “Inspire Disciples of Christ by walking with people as they grow in relationship with Christ and His Church.” For more information, visit burningheartsdisciples.org.

Breakout sessions will differ on Friday and Saturday. A schedule will be available later this month. Friday will begin with Mass at 3:30 p.m. Saturday will begin at 9 a.m. and end with Mass at 4:15 p.m.

Cost for one day is $45 if paid by Oct. 10.

For a group of 5 or more, the single day cost is $40 per person.

Cost for both days is $65 per person. There is no group rate for both days.

If registered after Oct. 10, cost is $55/one day or $75/two.

Lunch is not guaranteed if registered after Oct. 10.

Registration is available at diokzooconvocation.eventbrite.com.

The New Evangelization Conference regularly brings in more than 450 people from around the Diocese.

For more information or to register, visit: diokzoo.org/neconvocation or contact Jamin Herold, 269-903-0203; jherold@diokzoo.org.

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Local artist reflects on his friendship with a saint

For local music artist and St. Philip Catholic Church, Portage. Persons of all faiths are invited to attend.

For information, contact Mike Emmons, 269-903-0213.

Annual Diocesan Blue Mass

Held on the 15th anniversary of 9-11

Bishop Bradley will celebrate Mass honoring police, fire, EMT and military personnel on Sunday, Sept. 11 at 11 a.m., St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church, Portage. Persons of all faiths are invited to attend.
Two-long time Diocesan Pastoral Center employees to retire

David Reilly, Director of Diocesan Worship and Liturgy for close to 40 years and Fanny Tabares, Associate Director for Multicultural & Hispanic Ministry for close to 20 years recently announced their plans to retire.

David entered into full retirement last month and Fanny will retire at the end of this month. The Good News asked them to reflect on their ministry and more than 50 years of combined service to the Diocese of Kalamazoo.

David joined the Diocesan Pastoral Center staff in 1978. He served as the Director of Worship and Liturgy under all four Bishops of the Diocese of Kalamazoo. He is also an avid musician and has led several diocesan musician workshops.

Fanny, a native of Colombia, South America, came to the United States to visit family in the South before accepting a job with the Diocese of Grand Rapids. She was later appointed by Bishop James A. Murray to lead the Office of Hispanic Ministry.

As you look back on your time working for the diocese what positive changes have you observed?

David: Diocesan liturgies have really expanded, especially with Bishop Bradley – he has a high energy level for doing things like diocesan liturgies, whether it’s the really well-known ones like Ordination or Chrism Mass, or the less common ones like migrant farmworkers ministry, 50th wedding anniversary, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Blue Mass, etc. It has been great to see the Diocese expand and evolve, especially to see how the Hispanic Ministry has exploded and the Vietnamese and Burmese Ministries are growing.

Fanny: When I first came to the Diocese there was already wonderful ministry happening with the Latino/Hispanic communities through the work of Sr. Rosemary Tierney and Fr. Bob Flickinger. I have been happy to see that ministry grow and evolve to where we initiated a Pastoral Plan for Hispanic Ministry and encouraged the people to become an integral part of Parish life.

What program and/or ministry within your office are you most proud?

David: Our office was instrumental in implementing the 3rd edition of the Roman Missal in 2011. That was an enormous undertaking. I also helped conduct several workshops on art and architecture, even some art exhibitions emphasizing local artists and the role of art and architecture in the faith. Not only is that something I’m really interested in but I think it is a great aspect of our faith that is often overlooked.

Fanny: I am a teacher at heart and believe education and formation continue throughout your entire life. I am most inspired by the participants in the San Agustin Institute that our office created. The first class was 85 students and I thought I’d be lucky to have maybe 25 total! Our second class of this three-year program currently has 150 students and we have a waiting list. The interest surpassed my expectations and the students’ inspire and bless me with their commitment to their faith.

What is one of your fondest ministry memories?

David: The funeral of Officer Eric Zapata killed in the line of duty on April 18, 2011. I was part of the team that prepared the funeral Mass held at Miller Auditorium. I was deeply moved by the presence of 3,000 first responders and the traditional honors that they bestowed on behalf of PSO Zapata. I was deeply touched by the pastoral care given by Bishop Bradley in accepting the daunting task of celebrating the funerall Mass under such tragic circumstances and his ability to be comforting all present with his gifted preaching. Ministry is all about leading people to encounter the Risen Christ and lucky me I have been able to walk with them and witness this during my time in the Office of Worship.

Fanny: The blessing of the painting by artist Chris Moran of Our Lady of Guadalupe was one of the most beautiful moments for me. This happened on her feast day in 2004 and St. Augustine Cathedral was filled. It was so amazing to see so many people, from different Latino and Hispanic cultures, come to visit and give thanks to Our Lady. Even to this day so many of them tell me how they have been blessed by this presence. It was a significant moment in our Diocese to honor the importance of our many cultures.

What are your plans for retirement?

David: I will use this year to try to discern what it is that God is calling me to in this new phase of life. I have been in ministry for 43 years, 38 here and 5 in Memphis in an inner-city parish and their diocesan worship office. That’s a long time in ministry. As for the future I’ll continue my volunteering in two areas that I dearly love: as a member of the RCIA Team in my parish and as principle bassist with the Kalamazoo Philharmonic Orchestra.

Fanny: (laughingly) Why do I need plans for retirement? I am happy to move into “Kairos” time and not have a structure to my day. My house needs me; my garden needs me. I’ll be looking forward to spending more time visiting and traveling with my family.
THE BISHOP'S PERSPECTIVE
Seeking the new normal through renewal

It’s back to school time and probably like me you’re wondering where did the summertime go? It seemed to pass by very quickly; there was an added unique layer of activity in our Diocese as this summer was a time of historic change and transition for our priests and people, as our Diocesan Pastoral Plan: “A Future full of Hope,” was fully implemented. Beginning on July 1, most of our 56 active priests began their new priestly assignments within the recently formed 28 Collaboratives. For the better part of this summertime, our priests and people have been getting to know one another in new parish/Collaborative settings and everyone is experiencing an adjustment period of some kind whether it’s to new Mass schedules or new pastoral practices. This transition gives us all the great opportunity to practice all the virtues, most especially, patience, charity and a good sense of humor. While there are certainly kinks to work out, and situations that have had to be slightly modified, and we might go through a “trial and error” period for a while, for the most part, the Diocesan Pastoral Plan is well on its way to accomplishing what its main purpose has been from the beginning: to re-distribute our priests in such a way to best use their gifts and talents in the places where they will provide the faithful of the Diocese with the best pastoral and sacramental care available.

As the calendar turns to September, marking the unofficial end of summertime and the official return to schooltime, I think we all are seeking a way to find some “normal time,” even if it’s the “new” normal for us. September is a time when typical parish ministries and programs start back up again, with religious education programs for children and adults, sacramental programs, outreach efforts and the multiple other parish ministries particular to each parish. Part of the effort of the new Collaboratives will be to see how each parish’s programs and ministries can help in the overall efforts of the new Collaborative.

While there are still a number of adjustments to be made, and this time of transition can be challenging for many, the new opportunities that are available to all of us are very exciting. How can we work more closely together (collaborate) within the parishes in the Collaborative and among all the Collaboratives in the Diocese in order to accomplish the mission of the Church? That mission, of course, remains constant — unchanged — the same as it was since Jesus first gave the mission to the 12 Apostles: “Go out into the whole world and proclaim the Good News.” (Mark 16:15)

During this time of transition, I urge all of us to take these next months to focus on that mission which was entrusted to each of us on the day of our Baptism through that most basic of all relationships: our relationship with Jesus Christ. That is what it means for us to be a part of the Body of Christ in the first place — to be vitally and completely united and in love with Jesus. I am urging each member of the Body of Christ to take the time to be renewed in Christ, and I have directed all our priests, especially the pastors of our 28 Collaboratives, to spend these next months in focusing, as a Collaborative, on leading the entire Catholic family in our Diocese in a time of renewal of our union with, and love, for Jesus.

As I hope we all remember, we are in the final months of the Jubilee Year of Mercy to which Pope Francis called the entire Church, which began on December 8th last year, and that will conclude on November 20, 2016 (the Solemnity of Christ the King). Given all that is happening in our world from tragic and violent acts to the discord surrounding the current Presidential election to our own personal lives, we not only realize that we are in great need to receive Jesus’ love and mercy, but it is also critically important for each of us to be instruments of His love and mercy to others so we can change the world for the better.

As our Holy Father, Pope Francis, wrote so beautifully in the official document initiat- ing this Jubilee Year of Mercy: “The Church’s first truth is the love of Christ. The Church makes herself a servant of this love and mediates it to all people: a love that forgives and expresses itself in the gift of oneself. Consequently, wherever the Church is present, the mercy of the Father must be evident. In our parishes, communities, associations, and (homes); in a word wherever there are Christians, everyone should find an oasis of mercy.” (#12)

While I am confident that you are quite capable of deciding what your own individual spiritual and devotional practices are that will help you to stay close to Jesus, may I offer you these simple, and practical, suggestions to consider:

1. Make a pilgrimage to the Holy Door at St. Augustine Cathedral. This is a wonderful opportunity to visit the Mother Church of our diocese and also satisfy one of the requirements to gain a plenary indulgence during this Jubilee Year.

2. Choose one or two of the corporal and spiritual works of mercy and focus on ways that your family can practice them together.

3. Find ways to share your faith whether that’s by inviting a friend to Mass or by vol-

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LA PERSPECTIVA DEL OBISPO
Buscando el nuevo normal a través de la renovación

Es tiempo del regreso a la escuela y, probablemente, como yo, se estarán preguntando ¿a dónde se fue el verano? Parece haber pasado muy rápido; hubo una capa única de actividad agregada en nuestra diócesis ya que este verano fue un momento histórico de cambio y transición para nuestros sacerdotes y para la gente, al haberse implementado en su totalidad nuestro Plan Pastoral Diocesano: “Un futuro lleno de esperanza”. A partir del 1 de julio, la mayoría de nuestros 54 sacerdotes activos comenzaron sus nuevas asignaciones sacerdotales dentro de las recientemente formadas 28 colaboraciones. Por la mayor parte de este verano, nuestros sacerdotes y la gente se han estado encontrando en nuevos escenarios de parroquia/collaboración y todo el mundo está experimentando un periodo de adaptación de algún tipo ya sea nuevos horarios de misa o nuevas prácticas pastorales. Esta transición nos da a todos la gran oportunidad de practicar todas las virtudes, especialmente, la paciencia, la caridad y un buen sentido del humor. Aunque sin duda hay problemas para trabajar, y situaciones que han tenido que ser ligeramente modificadas, y quizá pasemos por un período de “prueba y error” por un tiempo, en su mayor parte, el Plan Pastoral Diocesano está bien en camino logrando lo que ha sido su principal objetivo desde el principio: re distribuir nuestros sacerdotes de tal manera para utilizar mejor sus dones y talentos en los lugares donde ellos podrán proveer a los fieles de la diáiseis con el mejor cuidado pastoral y sacramental disponible.

A medida que el calendario pasa a septiembre, marcando el final no oficial del verano y el regreso oficial al tiempo escolar, creo que todos estamos buscando una manera de encontrar un “tiempo normal”, incluso si es el “nuevo” normal para nosotros. Septiembre es un tiempo en el que los típicos ministerios y programas parroquiales comienzan de nuevo, con programas de educación religiosa para niños y adultos, programas sacramentales, esfuerzos de divulgación y los múltiples otros ministerios parroquiales particulares de cada parroquia. Parte del esfuerzo de las nuevas colaboraciones será ver cómo los programas y ministerios de cada parroquia pueden ayudar en los esfuerzos generales de la nueva colaboración.

Aunque hay todavía una serie de ajustes por hacer, y este tiempo de transición puede ser desafiante para muchos, las nuevas oportunidades que están disponibles para todos nosotros son muy emocionantes. ¿Cómo podemos trabajar más estrechamente juntos (collaborar) dentro de las parroquias en la colaboración y entre todas las colaboraciones en la diáiseis, a fin de lograr la misión de la Iglesia? Esa misión, por supuesto, permanece constante — invariable la misma desde que Jesús dio la misión a los primeros apóstoles: “Id por todo el mundo y proclamad la Buena Nueva”. (Marcos 16:15)

Durante este periodo de transición, exhorto a todos a tomar estos próximos meses para centrarse en esta misión, que fue confiada a cada uno de nosotros el día de nuestro bautismo, a través de la más básica de todas las relaciones: nuestra relación con Jesucristo. Eso es lo que significa para nosotros ser parte del cuerpo de Cristo en primer lugar — estar vital y totalmente unidos y enamorados de Jesús. Estoy exhortando a cada miembro del Cuerpo de Cristo a tomarse el tiempo para ser renovados en Cristo, y le he indicado a todos nuestros sacerdotes, especialmente a los pastores de nuestras 28 colaboraciones, a pasar estos próximos meses centrándose, como colaborativa, a llevar a la entera familia católica en nuestra diáiseis a un momento de renovación de nuestra unión, y amor por Jesús.

Como espero que todos recordemos, estamos en los meses finales del año Jubilar de la misericordia al cual el Papa Francisco llamó a toda la Iglesia, que comenzó el 8 de diciembre del pasado año y que concluirá el 20 de noviembre de 2016 (la solemnidad de Jesucristo, Rey del universo). Dado todo lo que está sucediendo en nuestro mundo desde actos trágicos y violentos a la discordia rodeando la actual elección presidencial a nuestra vida personal, no sólo nos damos cuenta de que tenemos gran necesidad de recibir el amor y la misericordia de Jesús, pero también que es críticamente importante para cada uno de nosotros el ser instrumentos de Su amor y misericordia hacia los demás para que podamos cambiar el mundo para mejor.

Como nuestro Santo Padre, el Papa Francisco, escribió tan bellamente en el documento oficial a iniciar este Año Jubilar de la Misericordia: “ La primera verdad de la Iglesia es el amor de Cristo. De este amor, que llega hasta el perdón y al don de sí, la Iglesia se hace sierva y mediadora ante los hombres. Por tanto, donde la Iglesia esté presente, allí debe ser evidente la misericordia del Padre. En nuestras parroquias, en las comunidades, en las asociaciones y movimientos, en fin, dondequiera que haya cristianos, cualquiera debería poder encontrar un oasis de misericordia.” (# 12)

Aunque estoy seguro de que ustedes son capaces de decidir cuáles son sus propias
Pope creates commission to study women deacons

Vatican City (CNA/EWTN News) Pope Francis has instituted a new commission for the study of women deacons, the Vatican announced Tuesday. The decision comes several months after a papal audience with a group of religious sisters, during which Pope expressed his willingness to consider forming a commission to study women deacons, such as those who existed in the early Church.

The new commission will be headed by Secretary of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, Archbishop Luis Francisco Ladaria Ferrer, who will lead a group comprised of twelve members, half of whom are women.

Both lay and religious women have been chosen for the commission, including Sr. Mary Melone, rector of the Antonianum University in Rome. During an in-flight press conference after the his trip to Armenia last June, the Pope spoke of cases in the early Church included in the list is Fr. Robert Dodaro, president of the Augustinum Vienna and member of the International theological commission. Also including Sr. Mary Melone, rector of the Antonianum university, Prof.

The subject of women deacons has previously been studied by the Church, including a 2002 document from the International Theological Commission, an advisory body to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith.

The Bishop’s Perspective

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The Bishop’s Perspective

prácticas espirituales y devocionales que les ayudarán a permanecer cerca de Jesús, les ofreceremos estas sencillas y prácticas, sugerencias para considerar:

1. Realiza una peregrinación a la Puerta santa en la Catedral de San Agustín. Esta es una magnífica oportunidad para visitar a la Iglesia Madre de nuestra diócesis, y también satisfacer uno de los requisitos para obtener la indulgencia plenaria durante este año Jubilar.

2. Elige uno o dos de las obras de misericordia espirituales y corporales y céntrense en la manera en que sus familias pueden practicarlas juntos.

3. Encuentren maneras de compartir su fe, ya sea invitando a un amigo a misa o mediante el voluntariado en la mesa de la Diócesis en la feria del condado (vea la página 7 para más información).

4. Perdonar un agravio o daño que han estado reteniendo. Extiendan la misericordia a alguien que le ha hecho daño.

5. Concéntrense en lo positivo. En otras palabras, cuiden su lengua. Piensen antes de hablar o mandar un tweet para que sus palabras puedan propagar luz de discorid.

Pido a Dios que este tiempo de renovación espiritual nos recuerde una vez más lo que es más importante, tanto en nuestras propias vidas, como también dentro de las 59 parroquias de las 28 colaboraciones en los nueve municipios de nuestra diócesis, a saber: que nos enfocamos en conocer y amar a Jesucristo, que nos abrimos a Su misericordia por nuestros pecados y por los pecados de nuestro mundo, y que podemos ser instrumentos de Su amor y misericordia. Eso es lo que nos ayudará a todos a encontrar el “nuevo” normal, como el escritor de la Carta a los Hebreos proclama de manera tan valiente y claramente: “Jesucristo es el mismo ayer, hoy y siempre!” (Heb.13:8).

Bishop’s Calendar

Sept. 10: Rite of Acolyte, St. Augustine Cathedral, 9 a.m. Permanent Deacons.

Sept. 11: Annual Diocesan Blue Mass, St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church, 11 a.m.

Sept. 16: Mass with Teachers, Miracle Camp, Mattawan, 11 a.m.

Oct. 2: 50th Anniversary Golden Wedding Mass, St. Augustine Cathedral, 2 p.m.

Oct. 7: Installation Mass for Rev. Benjamin Huynh, St. Margaret Parish, Otsego

Oct. 12: Priests Day of Recollection, St. Margaret Parish, Otsego, 1:30 p.m.

New principals appointed for 2016-2017 school year

The following new principals have been appointed:

- Sara Myers has been appointed the PK – 8 principalship of both St. Joseph Elementary and Middle Schools for the Battle Creek Area Catholic Schools. The schools will continue to operate as two separate entities. Katie Reed has been appointed assistant principal.

- Vicky Groat, who has been interim principal at St. Philip High School, Battle Creek has been appointed principal.

- Jeanne Romstadt, has been hired as interim principal for St. Mary of the Lake School, New Buffalo.

- Lisa Smith has been appointed principal at St. Ann School, Augusta (a Catholic school in candidacy).

Lake Michigan Catholic Schools will be shifting to a President/Principal model for the upcoming school year. John Berlin has been appointed President over the system of schools and Gerald Heath has been appointed principal of the middle and high school.
Go out and make disciples... at the nearest PokeStop?
Churches around the nation explore opportunities for a ‘Pokévangelization’

By Sarah DeMott

By now, it seems impossible anyone in the country hasn’t heard of the Pokemon Go craze. The augmented reality gaming app, released on July 6, has been downloaded more than 100 million times in more than 60 countries.

In Pokemon Go, users traverse the real world, catching virtual creatures from the Nintendo Pokemon game popular in the 90s. Physical landmarks, such as churches, businesses and parks, are designated as PokeStops, markers where users can swipe to collect resources necessary to catch Pokemon, “evolve and level-up” and compete against other users in “Gyms” (designated places) which are scattered throughout communities.

Locally, the St. Stanislaus Youth Ministry held an “Unveiling of our local Pokestop” on July 26, inviting parish youth and their family and friends for an evening of Pokemon Go and pizza. Lures were activated and after an hour of fun, evening Mass was celebrated, followed by pizza.

St. Stanislaus Parish DE, Sheryl O’Connor, thinks the Pokemon Go craze lends itself well to getting youth and young adults more active, both in their communities and their faith.

“We were surprised by how cross-generational our turnout was,” said O’Connor. “People who knew nothing about the game came out to support and interact with our youth.”

As for how she sees Pokemon Go tying in with youth ministry, O’Connor believes in the opportunity ahead, attracting more attendees by connecting Pokemon hunting with theological teaching.

“You can draw an analogy between the PokeStop itself and going to Mass,” she said. “While it isn’t an analogy that will hold up to intense theological scrutiny, this evangelization tool? Utilize lures (see resource guide cited above for more information on lures) to bring players to your PokeStop. Have signs out stating when lures will be active. Set out water bottles or snacks for players and have staff members posted ready to interact with players. Maybe set up a small spot for confession or time for players to ask a priest or deacon questions while they wait for new Pokemon to appear. Whether any deep discussions occur, it is an opportunity for community members to experience the Church in a friendly, laid back and positive light.

“In order to evangelize we are often called to build bridges of trust,” says Jamin Herold, Associate Director for New Evangelization. “Pokemon Go has given Churches an opportunity with many who might not ever think about faith before or Church. They will come to experience their game, to use the Pokemon Gym or the Poke Stop, and we have an opportunity through hospitality to build that bridge of trust. Those playing Pokemon Go can see the Church as a place of refuge or hostile territory depending on how we treat those who come.”

If your parish utilizes an e-newsletter service or an app such as Flocknote, promote your Poke Stop status or event and gather contact information promising to announce when lures will be set. You can also promote this through your website and any social media platforms you use.

Let Pope Francis be your guide. “We cannot keep ourselves shut up in parishes, in our communities, when so many people are waiting for the Gospel!”

A week later: The secretary stops by Gretchen’s desk again.

Gretchen’s smile gets a little stuck.

Gretchen is 27, married, works at a bank in wire transfers, and is feeling on top of the world. Her husband is finishing his degree, so she is their main income source, but she interviewed in Commercial Loans last week and just found out that the new job is hers. She owns one navy suit and the dress code will be several levels higher in her new function, but after a few pay checks she should be able to swing a new outfit or two.

The bank president’s secretary stops by her desk, and with a look of concern says, “Gretchen, I don’t know how you manage. You live in an apartment, drive an old car, and now you’re getting this new job. What are you going to do for clothes?”

Gretchen’s smile gets a little studd.

The secretary shakes her head. “When I was growing up my mom always made sure we had new clothes every season, matching shoes, purse – everything so we would fit into the places we had to go. I think it’s amazing how little you seem content with.” Then she walks away.

Gretchen is hurt, confused, shocked at the insensitivity, and yet, she still feels on top of the world. She knows her life is full of love and joy, and old clothes aren’t going to ruin that one bit. In fact, she feels a little sorry for the secretary whose self image is so tied to fashion and status symbols.

A week later: The secretary stops by Gretchen’s desk again.

Gretchen smiles but thinks, Oh boy, what’s next? The woman is in a different mood today. She says, “I’ve been thinking about you. You probably don’t know; but I’m pregnant. My husband and I have decided that I’m going to give up my job and stay home for awhile. You and I are about the same size and I’m wondering if you would be interested in having some of my work clothes?”

Gretchen’s smile comes unstuck in astonishment.

The next week she is invited to the woman’s home and into her bedroom where they begin at the blouses and work their way through the suits, shoes, and scarves. Everything is high-end, practically new and matching. Gretchen leaves with thirteen bags of clothes. She recalls the relief: “I had spent half a day having fun with a gal I normally would have no contact with. I believed God must have made this happen in some amazing way. He knew my needs. He knew I had been hurt. He could make all things happen and work them out for the good. Undeniably this woman ended up a light of generosity for me. Who would have known that?”

New Young Adult Fair seeks to promote fellowship

In an effort to display the resources necessary to catch Pokemon, “evolve and level-up” and compete against other users in “Gyms” (designated places) which are scattered throughout communities.

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Let Pope Francis be your guide. “We cannot keep ourselves shut up in parishes, in our communities, when so many people are waiting for the Gospel!”

New Young Adult Fair seeks to promote fellowship

In an effort to display the range of young adult programs offered, the Diocese of Kalamazoo’s Youth and Young Adult Ministry will host a Young Adult Fair on Saturday, Sept. 17. The day will begin with 10 a.m. Mass celebrated by Rev. Fr. Fred O’Keefe at St. Augustine Cathedral. The group will then move across the parking lot to the Crowley Center to learn more about the different programs available for Catholics ages 18-39 looking to connect with others and learn more about their faith. Speakers representing young adult groups will speak briefly about their respective programs and have an informational booth.

Groups featured will include:
• Kzoo Catholic Sports League
• St. Monica Catholic Church’s young adult group
• St. Thomas More Student Parish’s young adult group
• Annual Young Adult Retreat
• Diocesan Young Adult Department

All are welcome for Mass and the program presentations. Young adult fellowship will begin with lunch (provided) at Noon, followed by a whistle ball tournament sponsored by Kzoo Catholic Sports League. The day will end with prayer at 2:15 p.m.

“We really want to show folks we have some great programs going on for young adults in our diocese,” said Tim McNamara, Associate Director for Youth and Young Adults. “This age group is usually still in the process of discerning vocations and discovering how to live that vocation. We want to provide a Christ-encounter that will change their lives in such a way that they change others.”

For more information, visit diokzoo.org/young-adult or contact Tim McNamara, 269-903-0139.

The Other Six Days

Perfect Mercy

Gretchen is 27, married, works at a bank in wire transfers, and is feeling on top of the world. Her husband is finishing his degree, so she is their main income source, but she interviewed in Commercial Loans last week and just found out that the new job is hers. She owns one navy suit and the dress code will be several levels higher in her new function, but after a few pay checks she should be able to swing a new outfit or two.

The bank president’s secretary stops by her desk, and with a look of concern says, “Gretchen, I don’t know how you manage. You live in an apartment, drive an old car, and now you’re getting this new job. What are you going to do for clothes?”

Gretchen’s smile gets a little studd.

The secretary shakes her head. “When I was growing up my mom always made sure we had new clothes every season, matching shoes, purse – everything so we would fit into the places we had to go. I think it’s amazing how little you seem content with.” Then she walks away.

Gretchen is hurt, confused, shocked at the insensitivity, and yet, she still feels on top of the world. She knows her life is full of love and joy, and old clothes aren’t going to ruin that one bit. In fact, she feels a little sorry for the secretary whose self image is so tied to fashion and status symbols.

A week later: The secretary stops by Gretchen’s desk again.

Gretchen smiles but thinks, Oh boy, what’s next? The woman is in a different mood today. She says, “I’ve been thinking about you. You probably don’t know; but I’m pregnant. My husband and I have decided that I’m going to give up my job and stay home for awhile. You and I are about the same size and I’m wondering if you would be interested in having some of my work clothes?”

Gretchen’s smile comes unstuck in astonishment.

The next week she is invited to the woman’s home and into her bedroom where they begin at the blouses and work their way through the suits, shoes, and scarves. Everything is high-end, practically new and matching. Gretchen leaves with thirteen bags of clothes. She recalls the relief: “I had spent half a day having fun with a gal I normally would have no contact with. I believed God must have made this happen in some amazing way. He knew my needs. He knew I had been hurt. He could make all things happen and work them out for the good. Undeniably this woman ended up a light of generosity for me. Who would have known that?"
Bienvenido Padre Daniel Sigala

El Padre Daniel Rodríguez Sigala ha llegado hace poco para trabajar en la Diócesis. Entresus muchos dones como su habilidad para trabajar con jóvenes tiene el gran arte de ser payaso. Esechimo le: “Naci en Etzatatlán Jalisco Marzo 2 de 1977. Desde pequeño tuve la intuición de llegar a ser payaso. Pero también la ilusión de ser famoso y salir en la T.V. entre estas dos posibilidades corría mi vida. Con mi grupo de secundaria éramos muy creativos para los festivales y hasta logramos montar pequeñas obras teatrales. En tercer grado de secundaria se presentó la oportunidad de hacerlo en una manera profesional. Gracias a esto se me abrieron las puertas y desde los 12 años he hecho apariciones en la televisión, comerciales y además formado parte de obras de teatro, montajes escénicos y profesionales.

La vocación de payaso, Danielín nació casi por acierto, pues acudí a un llamado de una vecina que quería tener una fiesta infantil con payasos. De mi vocación Sacerdotal puedo decirles, de la importancia de estar bien acompañado no solo por tu familia, ya que en mi caso mis amigos jugaron un papel muy importante para mi discernimiento. Opté por ser Sacerdote. Mi padre, Daniel Rodríguez, dueño de todo pero cristiana-red, como paulino, “Hablar con valores que no aparezcan en el aire” con valores que deben estar por encima de todas las cosas”. Hace siete años fui ordenado sacerdote y desde entonces me arreglé para que en mis tiempos aparezca Danielín y me ayude a evangelizar en un tono ameno y creativo sobre todo para los niños.

Desde mi ingreso a la congregación he acompañado a otros jóvenes en su discernimiento vocacional en otros apostolados como El Departamento Creativo de Ediciones Paulinas en México; maestro en el Seminario Menor Paulino de Guadalajara; el Apostolado de la Televisión en Guadalajara, Jalisco México por cinco años; junto a la Pastoral Juvenil Paulina me toco ser parte de la Red Fundación de nuestro apostolado en la Habana Cuba y ahora me dispongo en el Señor para colaborar en esta Diócesis de Kalamazoo, el tiempo que Dios, quiera en favor de mis hermanos hispanos”.


Gracias Voluntarios de Migrant Ministry

Agradecemos profundamente a todos los voluntarios que directamente e indirectamente ayudaron en el ministerio con los campesinos migrantes. Los invitamos a una cena de agradecimiento el viernes 23 de septiembre del 2016 a las 6:30p.m. en el Crowley Center de la Catedral de San Agustín, 542 W. Michigan Avenue, Kalamazoo, MI 49007. Por favor llame al 269-903-0197 para confirmar su asistencia.

Thank You to the Volunteers of Migrant Ministry

We want to thank all the volunteers who directly or indirectly helped in the ministry to the migrant farmworkers. We invite you to an appreciation dinner on Friday, September 23, 2016 at 6:30p.m. at the Crowley Center of St. Augustine Cathedral, 542 W. Michigan Avenue, Kalamazoo, MI 49007. Please call 269-903-0197 to confirm your attendance.

Ministerio con los campesinos

Durante este verano como en años anteriores, llegaron a nuestra Diócesis 22,000 campesinos migrantes para trabajar en las cosechas en los 415 campos que cubre la Diócesis en los nueve condados de Allegan, Barry, Berrien, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph y Van Buren. Los Parroquianos abrieron sus puertas para acceder a los campesinos que llegaron de Texas, Florida, México y otros lugares incluyendo otros países. Hemos tenido un gran número de valiosos voluntarios y voluntarias que alegremente colaboran en este ministerio para poder llegar como iglesia y como comunidad de fe a todos los campesinos. El Ministerio Hispánico y Multicultural de la Diócesis de Kalamazoo agradece a los misioneros que nos acompañaron este verano para visitar los campesinos, a los voluntarios de las parroquias que también visitaron campos, a los voluntarios que acompañaron a los misioneros, a los voluntarios que ayudaron en el Centro Alemán, en especial a Maggie Ebrite quien coordina el Centro. También agradecemos a las/os catequistas que ayudaron en la preparación para los sacramentos, como Bautismos, Primera Comuniones y Confirmaciones.

Como parte también del programa pastoral de verano, nuestro Obispo Paul Bradley celebró la Misa en un campus el 27 de julio. Confirmó a varios campesinos migrantes en la Catedral de San Agustín el 20 de agosto y presidió la Misa de la Fiesta Diocesana el 14 de agosto, la Familia que fue un éxito.

En los campos también se celebraron varias misas de gran agradecimiento para los campesinos. ¡De nuevo muchas gracias a todos por su valioso apoyo y compromiso!

Calendar/Calendar

Septiembre/September

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<tr>
<th>Septiembre</th>
<th>Lugar: Parroquia de St. Joseph, 936 Lake Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49001. (Appreciation Dinner for All Volunteers who helped in our ministry to the migrant farmworkers.)</th>
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<td>23 (Viernes): 6:30 – 8:30 p.m., Cena de Agradecimiento para todos los voluntarios del Ministerio Migrante. Lugar: Crowley Center de la Catedral de San Agustín, 542 W. Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49007. (Appreciation Dinner for All Volunteers who helped in our ministry to the migrant farmworkers.)</td>
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<td>24 (Sábado): 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m., Instituto San Agustín – Programa de Formación Pastoral y de Liderazgo, Tercer Año de Formación 2014-2017. Lugar: Convento de Capuchinos, Kalamazoo, MI 49007.</td>
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**Activities around the diocese**

- Sept. 6: Trauma Recovery Program in Spanish. Local volunteers will present a 10-week course meets Tuesdays from 6 to 8:30 p.m.
- Sept. 7: Discovering Our Deepest Desire Program information session, 7 p.m.
- Sept. 10: Blue Mass with Bishop Paul J. Bradley, St. Catherine of Siena Parish, Portage, 11 a.m. Mass honoring emergency workers and first responders.
- Sept. 13: Financial Freedom Class, St. John’s and Bernard Parish. Nine sessions on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 p.m.

**Diocesan-wide collection for Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) will be held September 17-18, 2016**

Acting on the realization that established charitable services alone were not creating the change people needed to stay out of poverty, the Catholic bishops of the United States established The Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) as their domestic anti-poverty program in 1970. CCHD brings Catholic social teaching to life by funding community and economic development programs across the United States that help the poor and marginalized people join together to make decisions, seek solutions to local problems and find ways to improve their lives and neighborhoods. Economic development initiatives help create new businesses and jobs. CCHD also provides educational opportunities for Catholics to learn about poverty, stand in solidarity with those affected by it and reflect on their own responsibility before the great need of others.

The annual collection for CCHD will be held in parishes of the weekend of Sept. 17/18. This national collection is the primary source of funding for these grants and programs. Twenty-five percent of the collection’s proceeds remain in the Diocese of Kalamazoo to fight poverty in our community and defend the dignity of our neighbors.

**Diocesan-wide program helps people change their lives**

*By Dr. Phyllis Florian*

Do you have a history of childhood troubles, abuse, or trauma? Is your life still painful now? Tried to change your life? Sometimes, the “old baggage” from the past interferes with the present quality of life. You need a change, but you don’t know where to turn. DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE TRAUMA RECOVERY PROGRAM?

**Trauma Recovery Program—Fall 2016**

FREE Program for Catholics in the Diocese of Kalamazoo

- 10-weeks of classes
- Mondays – morning and afternoon groups starting mid-October
- For adults survivors of childhood abuse, neglect or trauma
- A safe, confidential program to support living life now in healthy ways
- Does not focus on the past but on the present and the future
- To inquire or register, please call Phyllis Florian at 381-8917, ext. 223
- Spaces available for Fall 2016.

**Widow Men monthly gathering**

— All widowed men are invited to join together for a time of fellowship and discussion on the second Wednesday of each month. The next gathering is September 13 from 4 to 5:30 p.m.

**Widowed Friends monthly gathering**

— All widowed men and women are invited to attend a monthly gathering and discussion for men and women on the 4th Wednesday of each month. The next gathering is September 28 from 4 to 5:30 p.m.

**3427 Golf Road, Kalamazoo 49004**

**16th Annual Community of Caregivers Conference with Joyce Rupp**

Self Compassion for Caregiving Professionals Friday, September 23 9:30 – 4:30 p.m.

We will explore our relationship with ourselves and develop skills for self-care and mindfulness. In doing so, we will learn to connect the mind, body, and spirit, building resiliency and creating a practical toolkit of compassionate practices for life’s most difficult moments.

**Nurse and Social Work CEUs**

**More info & register at TransfigurationsCenter.org**

269-381-4290 x327

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**Here & There**

Here & There publishes parish, Catholic school and diocesan sponsored events. Submissions should be sent to Vicki Cesnna,

Email: vcesnna@diokzoo.org
Bishop releases “The Joy of Love” Pastoral Guide:
Bishop Paul J. Bradley has written a pastoral guide for clergy, lay ministers and catechists entitled, “Amoris Laetitia: Five Principles of Pastoral Ministry” which was shared with priests and deacons last month. In his introduction the Bishop affirms Pope Francis’ beautiful teachings on love and the family and expresses his desire for a thorough reading of the text. “I ask you to allow your sacramental ministry, preaching, pastoral counseling and personal discernment to be guided by principles indicated by our Holy Father in this exhortation, which is a reaffirmation of the Church’s timeless and positive teaching on the love, truth and mercy of Jesus, the Good Shepherd.” A limited number of booklets are available through the diocesan Secretariat of Communications and Public Affairs. Online version may be found at www.diokzoo.org/amoris-laetitia

Rite of Candidacy:
Sean Farkas and John Paul Williams were received into Candidacy as seminarians for the Diocese by Bishop Bradley during the Rite of Candidacy Mass on Wednesday, Aug. 10. (From left): Joining them were diocesan seminarians; Wally Ferrara, Rev. Christopher Ankley, Blak “Paul” Sang, Deacon Maximilian Nightingale, Sean Farkas, Bishop Bradley, John Paul Williams, Clark Thompson, Deacon Jeffrey Hanley, Jacob Thomas, Brother Edward Olsen and Msgr. Michael Osborn, Vicar General/Director of the Vocations.

Back to School Cleaning:
Immaculate Conception Catholic School in Three Rivers recently hosted its annual playground clean up day. The rain that came down did not dampen their spirits or stop them from having fun. After the weeding, spreading of mulch, etc. was done everyone enjoyed a hot dog roast provided by the local Knights of Columbus. Shown above is Rev. Antony Rajesh, Pastor, along with volunteers was on hand as well as principal Sharon Alexander with young helpers.

All Saints Superfest 2016
September 23, 24 & 25
Skerbeck Brothers Carnival * Silent Auction * Food Tent * Kids Games Tent * Booth Tent * CCW Bake Sale
St. Joseph Church Grounds, 61 North 23rd Street, Battle Creek, MI

Friday, September 23
Open 6 p.m. – Midnight
6 – 10 p.m.
Pasche’s BBQ & St. Lawrence Grill Team, Food Tent
8 p.m. – Midnight
THE FOOL HOUSE BAND

Saturday, September 24
Open Noon – Midnight
1 – 10 p.m.
St. Lawrence Grill Team, Food Tent
THE SPAZMATICS

Sunday, September 25
Open Noon – 4 p.m.
Noon – 2 p.m. – Children’s Talent Show
Noon – 3 p.m. – St. Lawrence Grill Team, Food Tent
1:30 – 2:30 p.m. – Silent Auction Closing
2:30 – 3:30 p.m. – Live Auction
4 p.m. – Raffle Drawing, Grand Prize $5,000

To reserve tickets for THE FOOL HOUSE BAND on Friday night or THE SPAZMATICS on Saturday night.
email: info@allsaintssuperfest.org
or visit www.allsaintssuperfest.org
for additional information.

Check us out on Facebook
All Saints Superfest

Bishop Bradley celebrates Mass of Installations at the five Deaneries to install new Pastors. After the Mass Bishop Bradley met with parishioners to discuss the Diocesan Pastoral Plan. Shown right are clergy from the Eastern Deanery: Deacon Mike Moreno, Very Rev. Mark Vyverman, Dean and Pastor of St. Charles Borromeo, Coldwater; Rev. Craig Lusk, Pastor of St. Mary Parish, Marshall and St. John Parish, Albion; Bishop Paul Bradley, Rev. Christopher Ankley, Pastor, St. Joseph Parish and St. Jerome Parish, Battle Creek; Rev. Simon Chummar Manjooran, SDB, Administrator, St. Philip Parish, Battle Creek; Rev. Joseph Gray, senior priest, Msgr. Michael Osborn and Deacon Ken Snyder.