

Newsletter



Office of
Family Ministry
& Respect Life
and
Office of
Catechesis
& Youth

Rachel's Vineyard Retreat

The Office of Family Ministry, in conjunction with the Diocese of Rapid City, S.D., is offering an upcoming Rachel's Vineyard retreat. The retreat is for anyone who is suffering from the pain of abortion. Forgiveness, healing and hope are awaiting retreatants on the next retreat scheduled for **Oct. 1-3**. For more information, contact the national office at 877-467-3463 or www.rachelsvineyard.org. Contact Carol Kling for local retreat information at 605-374-5639 or ckling@sdplains.com.

Thirst Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteer registration is now available for those interested in volunteering at the upcoming Thirst Eucharistic Conference scheduled for **Saturday, Oct. 30** at the Bismarck Event Center. Volunteer opportunities include serving youth at the Vocation Bible School and Diocesan Youth Conference, welcoming attendees as they arrive for the conference and more! For more information and to register as a volunteer, [click here](#).

Heaven in Your Home Workshop

There's so much coming at you as a Catholic parent—overwhelming schedules, media overload, concerns about your ability to pass on the faith. How can you create a home that nurtures and protects your family? Lead your family to a new level of faith and confidence with the Heaven in Your Home workshop, designed to help you make your home into a little taste of heaven. This free, on-demand workshop is perfect for busy families! With four, 15-minute, self-paced video sessions, you can start and stop as needed. Watch a 2-minute overview video and learn more [here](#).

Catechetical Leaders: Gathering with Luncheon

The Office of Catechesis and Youth, out of the desire to be a greater resource for Directors of Religious Education and Youth Ministers in their vital work, will provide deanery gatherings and luncheons throughout this upcoming fall. Each gathering will be scheduled from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and will include an opportunity to gather and connect through the celebration of Mass, food with social time, a short presentation, fruitful conversation and prayer. To RSVP, email Chris Kraft at ckraft@bismarckdiocese.com or accept the Outlook Calendar invite.

Thursday, Oct. 7 – Dickinson Deanery Luncheon

Thursday, Oct. 21 – Bismarck and Mandan Deanery Luncheon

Tuesday, Nov. 9 – Williston Deanery Luncheon

Thursday, Nov. 18 – Minot Deanery Luncheon

Chris Kraft

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September 2021

Diocesan Grant Application Now Open

The 2021-2022 grant application for the Catholic School and Religious Education Endowment Fund is now available online. You can find it on the diocesan website under the Office of Stewardship and Resource Development and then under Diocesan Grants [here](#). The deadline for receiving all grant applications is **Sunday, Oct. 31**. If you have any questions, please contact Ron Schatz at 701-202-7202 or rschatz@bismarckdiocese.com.

Corazon

The Office of Family Ministry held a Corazon weekend recently and it was a great success. This is an important ministry that we offer to couples struggling in their marriage. More information is available in the Corazon brochures (contact Amanda at 701-204-7205 for more if needed), and on the diocesan website [here](#).

Search

The fall dates for the Search for Christian Maturity weekend retreats include **Sept. 17-19** (for returning Searchers), **Oct. 8-10** and **Nov. 19-21**. The registration deadline for the September and October retreats is **Monday, Sept. 6**. For more information and to register, visit our website [here](#).

Life-Giving Wounds Fall Online Retreat

Life-Giving Wounds is a retreat for now-adult children of divorce or separation. They will host their second annual [online retreat](#), held over seven Thursday evenings 8:15-10 p.m. eastern time, from **Sept. 30 to Nov. 11**. The format is a presentation followed by small groups, with one evening dedicated to livestreamed Eucharistic Adoration. Participants receive over 10 hours of support from trained peer leaders for the unique challenges caused by family breakdown, plus a retreat guide and journal is mailed to them. Parish ministries interested in expanding pastoral care to adult children of divorce are encouraged to promote the online retreat locally (a shareable graphic is available [on the retreat webpage](#)). Plus, participants in the same parish/diocese can come together in a small group to help grow community and build interest in ACOD (Adult Children of Divorce) ministry. Contact Bethany Meola at bethany@lifegivingwounds.org to learn more, collaborate or become a sponsor of the retreat.

Catholic Youth Advisory Council (CYAC)

Please direct potential CYAC members our way! For more information and to apply online, visit [here](#).

Upcoming Thirst Eucharistic Conference

A free, one-day Eucharistic Conference, Thirst 2021, is set for **Saturday, Oct. 30** at the Bismarck Event Center. The general conference for adults will include various inspiring speakers including Dr. Ben Akers, Matt Fradd and Dr. Ray Guarendi. The conference will also include a special Vacation Bible School (VBS) for youth ages 3 through grade 5 and the Diocesan Youth Conference (DYC) for youth grades 6-12. The VBS portion of Thirst will accept the first 250 registrants and the DYC will accept the first 275 registrants. For more information and to register any attendee for Thirst 2021, [click here](#).