

MONTHLY REPORT

Faith Formation Administrative Team
August 2016

Adult Faith Formation
Dave Cushing

A. Initiation

1. **RCIA/RCRA.** The schedules for the Rite of Initiation and Rite of Reception have been set for the coming year.

> The 2016-17 RCIA schedule is online here:

<http://waterloocatholics.org/rcia-schedule>

> The 2016-17 RCRA schedule is online here:

<http://waterloocatholics.org/rcra-schedule>

> Learn more about the Rites of Initiation and Reception here:

<http://waterloocatholics.org/rcia-rcra>

2. **Baptism Preparation.** 05 families attended the Baptism class in July. The next Baptism preparation class is August 8 at St. Edward.

> Learn more about baptism preparation here:

<http://waterloocatholics.org/baptizing-infants-and-children>

> Read cumulative evaluations from Baptism preparation here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-JKRWWJSY/>

> The 2016-17 schedule for baptism preparation is online here:

<http://waterloocatholics.org/baptism-preparation-schedule>

B. Evangelization

1. **Catholic Evangelization Outreach.** 46 people attended the Catholic Witness Hour July 25 at Immaculate Conception Parish in Gilbertville.

> Learn more about the Witness Hour here:

<http://waterloocatholics.org/catholic-witness-hour>

2. **Friends in Faith Singles Ministry.** The group will hold its annual summer picnic August 13 at the Cushing home.

C. Adult Formation and Enrichment

1. **Summer at the Cellar.** 25 people attended Fr. Bob Beck's session July 7; 30 attended Charlotte Wells' session July 11; 45 people attended Fr. Jerry Kopacek's session July 21. Fr. Scott Bullock will discuss mercy in the Eucharist on August 11. I am adding a general discussion session to the schedule for August 18.

> Learn more about Summer at the Cellar here:

<http://waterloocatholics.org/summer-at-the-cellar>

> Read cumulative evaluations for Summer at the the Cellar here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-HBMTZQST/>

D. Spiritual Growth

1. **Summer Online Retreat.** 55 people are participating in "The Parables of Mercy" online retreat which ends July 31.

> Read cumulative evaluation results from online retreats here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-27MM8WST/>

2. **Year of Mercy Pilgrimage.** A second pilgrimage is planned for Wednesday, August 17. The pilgrimage will visit St. Francis Xavier Basilica in Dyersville, New Melleray Monastery, and the Cathedral in Dubuque.

> Read evaluation results from the June 29 pilgrimage here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-MC62ZBKM/>

E. Administration

1. Total daily reach for the Waterloo Catholics Facebook page for July 1-27 was 5,800 (daily average:215; daily range:128/348).

Young Adult Ministry Ellen Voegele

COR at 220 East

- * Young Adult Ministry Office has moved to COR as of July 1
- * Awnings are being replaced and a new sign will be up by Irish Fest or shortly after
- * COR Subcommittee will meet quarterly this year with a group of Networking Friends being developed to provide input and feedback monthly

* Community Events:

"Waterloo Portraits" by Sicilian photographer, Antonio Scontorino - The exhibit is nearly up and will be displayed beginning Irish Fest weekend and through the rest of summer and into the fall.

* Faith Formation Events:

Catholic Q&A - Thursday, July 7. - 1 person attended
Next up: August 4

Iowa Irish Fest - August 5-7

Stop by COR anytime during Irish Fest and enjoy Irish-themed refreshments, photography exhibit by Antonio Scontorino, board games, and conversation. Open hours will be Fri 6:30-8:30 pm, Sat 9 am - 8:30 pm, Sun 9 am - 3 pm. Confession will be available Fri 6:30 - 8:30 pm, Sat 1-3 pm and 6:30-8:30 pm, and Sun 1-3 pm.

Discussion Night - Monday, July 17 Topic: Faith and Space - *2 people attended*

Next up: Monday, August 15 Topic: Angels & Demons part II Facilitator: Fr. Jerry Kopacek

Monthly Movie Night with Fr. Bullock

June & July movie nights cancelled due to Fr. Bullock's surgery

Next up: Hitchcock's "Rear Window" August 19

Adam & I Concert - Monday, August 22, 7 pm

An evening with Nashville-based indie-folk duo, Adam & Andrea Melia. Donations will be accepted. All are welcome!

Adult Confirmation - Monday, August 1, 8, 15, 22 - we have five people potentially interested in Adult Confirmation this August. Chris Mitchell has again agreed to be the catechist and sessions will be from 6-8 pm at St. Edward.

Summer Cookout - Tuesday, August 30, 7 pm

Fr. Tom McDermott has graciously offered to host a summer cookout for all young adults at the Blessed Sacrament Rectory.

Get to Know Your Neighbors - break during June-August

Next up: September 11

Young Adult Ministry Communications -

- Flocknote - (flocknote.com/wcff) *153 subscribers*
- Facebook - Young Adults (facebook.com/cvyoungadults) *189 likes*
- Facebook - COR - *98 likes*

Networking/Promoted Events:

- Community Meals - June 3, 17, 24
- Listening Session for Inactive Catholics - June 15 (AFF)
- Discussion for Gay & Lesbian Catholics - June 22 (AFF)
- Year of Mercy Pilgrimage - June 29 (AFF)

Promoting:

- Pokemon Go Outreach - July 27, August 3, August 10, August 17 (Sacred Heart)
- Listening Session for Inactive Catholics - August 17 (AFF)
- Discussion for Gay & Lesbian Catholics - August 24 (AFF)
- Year of Mercy Pilgrimage - August 17 (AFF)
- Christ Our Life Conference - September 24-25, Des Moines
- Encounter Conference MKE - November 12

In process:

- Year of Mercy Closing Celebration - October 30, 2 pm at Sacred Heart - working with Dave Berns and Agnus Dei to put together "A Musical Journey of Mercy"
- Calendaring 2016-17

- COR Networking Friends
- Reshaping Young Adult Small Groups
- Small Group Facilitator Trainings
- YA Praise and Worship & Adoration nights

Spiritual Growth & Professional Development:

- Accepted invitation to be on the Archdiocesan Faith Formation Commission
- Spiritual Direction

Children and Family Catechesis

Kelleryn Rauzi

Religious Education:

- We are on a programming break for religious education until our fall programs start up again in September and October
- We will be having our last chance registration days on Aug. 18th from 6:30-7:45pm at Sacred Heart Church basement and on Aug. 23rd from 5:30pm-6:45pm at the Blessed Sacrament Parish Center. We also will have a Spanish registration day after the noon Mass at Queen of Peace on August 21st.
- Starting the process of recruiting more catechists for fall programming.

Intergenerational Opportunities:

- We are in the process of planning 4 family nights this upcoming school year. We will be expecting all RE families to be in attendance. All families whether, Catholic School families, homeschool families, or RE families are welcome. They will be both fun and catechetical in nature. More info to come.
- Totus Tuus had daily Mass as part of the program and we invited parents and other parishioners to join in.

Totus Tuus:

- Totus Tuus seemed to be a resounding success. I only heard very positive feedback from parents and kids alike.
- We had to cap the day program at around 80 students to keep our numbers from getting too high. The high school program had between 35-40 7-12th, graders show up every night.
- We had a great mix of Catholic School families, public school families, and homeschool families join us for Totus Tuus. We had registrations from all 4 Waterloo parishes along with families from other parishes in the area such as Gilbertville and Cedar Falls.

Spiritual/Professional Development:

- Monthly Spiritual Direction
- Will be attending Faith Formation Leader Day hosted by the Archdiocese on Aug. 9th.

High School/Middle School Youth Ministry

Annie Zeets

High School

June 27: Took 9 high school students to visit middle school summer RE classes to talk about youth ministry and NCYC. It was fun to spend some time with the students and to get them excited about youth ministry. I took the high school students to breakfast after the visit.

July 12: Met 15 students for dinner and discussion about how summer was going and what they would like to do this year in youth ministry.

July 17-21: Totus Tuus: I did not do much other than be present at this program. It was a fun week for the students and nice to meet some kids I didn't know. I also helped organize the food for the 7-12 "fun night".

Coming Up:

August 21: Sunday night youth group begins

August 28: Back to School party

Middle School

July 26-27: Serve 'n Slide. 8 students joined kids from Waverly and Mason City for an overnight service learning retreat. Service locations included: Waterloo Faith Formation office, American Martyrs, Bartels Nursing Home, Harmony House, St. Vincent DePaul, Waterloo Community Playhouse, Waverly Community Garden. We attended daily mass at St. Mary, Waverly, where we also spent the night. The theme of the retreat: Be the hands and feet of Christ. Day 2 was the slide part as we headed to Lost Island. In all, 25 students took part in the 2 days and the group really bonded - in fact, by mid afternoon day 1, I had no idea which kids were from each parish because they all were hanging out.

Coming Up:

August 28: Back to school party

Sept. 10: Retreat: You are Special. Location: Sacred Heart

Professional Development:

August 9: Registered for FFL & CSA day at Blessed Maria

Noteworthy:

Nov. 19th Waterloo will play host to the 2nd annual Archdiocesan Middle School Youth Jam. I have been asked to lead the planning team once again for this event.

Children and Family Catechesis

Julie Niemeyer

First Sacraments -

- In August information from parishes, RE program rosters and CVCS will be used to gather names of 2nd graders. Letters will be mailed to those families in late August/early September. Parent info meetings will be held Sept. 25-28.
- Have updated info about first sacraments on the WCFF website.

Children's Initiation

- Worked with two high school-aged Hispanic girls for immediate preparation for Reconciliation and Eucharist. They have now celebrated both sacraments.
- Will send bulletin announcements to parishes in August to explain the sacrament preparation program for those in grades 3 through 8. Students must be participating in a religious education or Catholic school program to be able to take C.I. classes. The announcements will encourage families to get their children registered.

Confirmation

- Hope to hear by then end of August the date we've been assigned for the metro celebration of Confirmation. I submitted six possible dates.
- Will use information from parishes, CORE rosters, and CVCS to identify high school juniors to invite to Confirmation Prep. Letters will be mailed the end of August. Confirmation Parent/Candidate info meeting will be Sept. 11 & 14.
- Information sessions about newly developed guidelines and resources for Confirmation in the Archdiocese. The in-services will be held from mid-September through mid-October at various locations. I'll likely attend one that will be held on Oct. 20 in Cedar Falls. I don't anticipate needing to make changes in our Confirmation program for this year, but it will likely look different next year and beyond.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

- CLOW continues during the summer at SH and QP - 2x per month - because they have leaders available. LOTS of new leaders and helpers will be needed for next year (Sept. - May) at SE and BS if weekly CLOW sessions are to continue. Will be making phone calls and communicating through bulletins and parish websites.

Burmese Liaison

- Working on identifying Burmese students needing sacraments and/or RE.

Professional Development

- Completed a 5 week on-line class *Disabilities in Parish Life: An Overview* through Univ. of Dayton's Virtual Learning Communities for Faith Formation. In mid-August will have completed another 5-week class that deals specifically with serving those with autism.

Office Manager

Becky McElroy

PDS

- Working with PDS support person on the best way to have updated accurate information from the Parishes for reaching out to their members on what is being offered and available through Faith Formation. Without direct access to their systems and not all Parishes keeping information the same

way trying to determine what is the most cost effective and best way to have up to date accurate information.

Support/Training on Providing Budget Info to staff and Commission

- Spent time with a couple of volunteers who came in and helped with looking at the accounting system we use and looked at how we are providing information to the staff and to the Commission and better ways to do that. Continue to work on utilizing our systems capabilities.

End of Year Report for the Arch

- Prepare end of the year report for Faith Formation for the Arch.

Registration

- Will be working on a mailing for Registration for CORE/RE programs for 2016-17.
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Meetings

- Preparing agenda's, updating information, and sending out meeting agenda's and minutes from the FFAT meetings.

Staff/Office

- Support staff with ongoing needs.
- Daily office duties.
- Working on cleaning out file cabinets and the office.
- Working with staff on our budget for 2016-2017.
- Put in survey monkey surveys for Dave and Julie.