

MONTHLY REPORT

Faith Formation Administrative Team
July 2018

Adult Faith Formation

Dave Cushing: dbqwcaf@dbqarch.org

Total on-site participation this month: 48

Total on-line participation this month:

A. Initiation

1. **RCRA.** The spring RCRA series will conclude on June 6.

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

2. **Baptism Preparation.** 02 families participated in Baptism preparation in June. The next Baptism preparation class is July 14 at Blessed Sacrament.

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

> Read cumulative evaluations from Baptism preparation here:

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

B. Evangelization

1. **Friends in Faith Singles Ministry.** The next Singles Mingle is July 14 at the Cedar Falls Family Restaurant.

> Learn more: <https://waterloocatholics.org/friends-in-faith>

2. **Catholic Evangelization Outreach.** next Witness Hour is July 23 at Immaculate Conception Parish in Gilbertville.

> Learn more: <https://waterloocatholics.org/catholic-witness-hour>

3. **Inactive Catholics.** The next listening session for inactive and alienated Catholics is July 18 at COR.

4. **LGBT Catholics.** The next listening session for gay and lesbian Catholics is July 25 at COR.

5. **Waterloo Catholics on Facebook.** Total daily reach for the Waterloo Catholics Facebook page for June was 3339 (daily average: 111; daily range:54/247).

C. Adult Formation and Enrichment

1. **Community Forum.** 12 people attended the Community Forum on Restorative Justice and the Archdiocese's Jail/Prison Ministry June 4 at COR.

> Learn more: <https://waterloocatholics.org/community-forum>

2. **Summer Bible Series.** 14 people participated in the Summer Bible Series with Dr. Bill Mulcahey during June.

> Learn more: <https://waterloocatholics.org/summer-bible-study>

> Read evaluations from the bible series at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-VXBTSJSY/>

3. **Summer Forum Series.** 32 people attended the first Summer Forum Series program with is June 28. Dr. Harold Wohl on June 28.

> The list of topics and presenters for the rest of the series is available online here:

<https://waterloocatholics.org/summer-forum-series>

D. Spiritual Growth

1. **Catholic Heritage Tour.** This tour will visit St. Francis Xavier Basilica in Dyersville, New Melleray Monastery, the cathedral in Dubuque, and the DaVinci exhibit at the National Mississippi River Museum in Dubuque on July 25.

> Learn more: <https://5554.sites.ecatholic.com/catholic-heritage-tour>

E. Social Action and Interfaith

1. **Catholics & Islam.** A four part series "The Truth About Catholics and Islam" was posted on our Facebook page on May 31, June 1, 4, and 6. The series addressed the Catholic understanding of Islam, the importance of dialog between Catholics and Muslims, the issue of religious violence, and resources about Islam. A total of 174 people accessed the series (daily average: 43).

K-12 Religious Education

Kelleryn Rauzi

- We finished Wednesday RE on May 9th with our end of year mass.
- We will finished Sunday RE on May 6th (we went to mass together at Blessed Sacrament on April 29th)
- Parents have been given the opportunity via survey to share their opinions on K-8 RE. See results here: https://www.surveymonkey.com/analyze/suR1_2BH8dLFR1RVTbj78_2BRBPxE63iu8rb9KVA4d_2F1zy7300A5fbnG8MkxbjuQh8vH
- Catechists were given the opportunity to share their thoughts on our program...see results here: https://www.surveymonkey.com/analyze/3PKVIjiE_2BWf7NmSFH5Dkpb8lOs8oFVmhX9y6caPtuQ8_3D
- Catechist and parent evaluations for Summer RE will go out during the last few days of the program.
- Summer RE began on June 18th at St. Edward School
- We have 100 students registered for Summer RE
- Stacie Mills organized 2 masses, Reconciliation, and Adoration for all of the students.
- Stacie Mills is the coordinator for Summer RE.

YDISCIPLINE:

- We have 4 groups (2 men and 2 women) off the ground and running smoothly.
- I held two parent meetings regarding YDISCIPLINE we had three families attend.
- From the parent meetings/emails, I am compiling a list of interested students and contact info for my successor.

FORMED:

- FORMED is an online Catholic resource website. It has many different bible studies (including YDISCIPLINE), parish programs, movies, Saint stories, podcasts, books, and much much more.
- To register you just need an email and parish code (codes below):
Blessed Sacrament: QFCYJH
St. Edward: 9Q7HGN
Sacred Heart: V9JDQC
Queen of Peace: T343JR

TOTUS TUUS:

- Since I will be leaving my position at the end of June, we have hired coordinator's to help run Totus Tuus in July. They are: William and Renae Brandle
- I will be doing most of the prep work; William and Renae will take over in July.
- Totus Tuus will be held at St. Edward Catholic School from July 22-27th.
- Grades 7-12 will be held in the evenings from 7-9:15pm Sunday-Thurs. Night
- Grades 1-6 will be held during the day from 9am-2:30pm
- Registration forms will be sent to schools to send home to families. They will also be going home to religious education families.
- I am working on doing much of the prep work so I can hand over the program in July to the Brandle's

Leaving Position Preparation:

- I am currently doing book inventories, catechist/potential catechist lists, etc. to prep my successor.
- I will be doing a month by month guide on the year for whoever is hired and a detailed outline of my job description/helpful hints, etc. for the new person.
- My last day is June 29th; it has been an honor working with you all to bring people closer to Jesus and His Church.

Gr. 2-12 Sacraments

Julie Niemeyer

First Sacraments

- Will be revising parent letters this month. Will request list of 2nd grade-aged children from parishes and begin to create a mailing list.
- Previewed First Sacrament Prep kits from Augustine Institute, but decided that the Loyola materials that we use fit our needs better.
- **PREP (Penance/Reconciliation & Eucharist Preparation for gr. 3-8) & Children's Initiation**
- Will follow up with 9th grader who was fully initiated at Easter Vigil and now needs Reconciliation.
- Hope to meet this summer with a young woman who is preparing for First Communion and Confirmation. I had begun working with her earlier in the year. So far she hasn't been able to make our appointments.
- Will work with two sisters from QP who will be baptized and receive Eucharist in August. Deacon Rigoberto has been working with the parents for this.
- **Confirmation**
- Have submitted our Confirmation date request to the Archbishop's office. We won't learn which day we get until mid-August. Dates submitted (in order of preference): Sun., March 31, Sat., March 30, Sun. March 10, Sat., March 9, Wed. March 27, Wed., April 3.
- Am researching sponsor resource materials that will help the sponsor be engaged with his/her candidate throughout the preparation process.
- Will revise candidate/parent mailing that gets mailed in mid-August. Will send bulletin announcements to recruit candidates who do not attend Columbus.
- **Children's Liturgy of the Word** - This summer it is weekly at BS, 2x per month at QP; 3x per month at SH; none at SE. I will continue to make the weekly leaflets and offer support to parish CLOW leaders until the new hire has a chance to be acclimated.
- **Other -**
- Served on search committee for Kelleryn's replacement.
- Helped with Summer RE on first day, helped prepare readers for Summer RE Masses, helped at Summer RE Thursday Masses.
- Led COR Discussion Night on June 18 - topic was Sacraments

- Am assisting Sacred Heart parish with creating their weekly bulletin . . . until they find a secretary/bookkeeper to hire.
 - Completed the annual summary report for my program, including 3-year trendline data for sacraments.
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Ellen Kuchera
COR & Young Adult Ministry
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COR AT 220 EAST:

- We had a successful COR Golf Outing on June 3. We had more teams sign up and made more than last year and have a lot of great ideas to continue growth for the future. We are hoping to book the first Sunday of June for next year as well.
- COR welcomed Catholic Charities and poet Michael Rigdon to discuss restorative justice. Once again, the combination of a speak with a poet was very well received and made for a moving evening.
- Movie Night, The Gold Rush, is on July 20.
- This month's discussion night topic on Prayer, will be on July 16.
- COR Art Committee - Darcy Birch has agreed to chair this committee. The committee has 5 members so far and we are looking for more people that are passionate about art or excellent event planners to help COR offer more consistent art exhibits and programming. Next meeting will be on July 9.
- Summer Forum series continues on July 11, 17, and 24 and includes a special young adult night on the 24th. Kevin Feyen will be the speaker and will be discussing "A Fresh Look at Jesus for those in their 20s and 30s."
- Plans are in the works for Irish Fest at COR.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY:

- Open Tea will be on July 9, 23, & 30 from 5:15-6:15 pm.
- Our Enjoy Waterloo July social will be "Morning at the Market" on July 14. Families are welcome.
- Planning for Light the Night at Queen of Peace on August 3 is moving along. We have all team coordinators in place and are now working on recruitment of volunteers. We have an amazing team and I can't thank them enough for their hard work!
- Young Adult Summer Forum will be held at COR on July 24. All young adults in their 20s and 30s are invited!

ADULT FAITH FORMATION:

- Alpha - Dave and I are working with Glenda Schmitz and Bev Byford to begin planning for Alpha at Queen of Peace and Sacred Heart. Volunteers are being recruited for other leadership roles. We will also meet with Maggie England at Blessed Sacrament once she begins her position on July 23.

OTHER

- Maternity leave plans are in progress.
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HS/MS Youth Ministry

Annie Zeets

High School

- June 2 & 3: Our pie sale fundraiser was a huge success. We sold all but 7 pies at Blessed Sacrament raising just over \$2,000 for our summer trips to Catholic Heart Workcamp and Steubenville Youth Conference

Summer 2018 Trips

- **Catholic Heart Workcamp:** June 17-22. Louisville, Kentucky
We had a really great experience at Catholic Heart. Enjoyed our time with the groups from John XXIII and St. Pius out of Cedar Rapids. Battled a lot of heat at our worksites and some heavy rains. Planning us underway for how we continue this service in our parishes. Our group will be meeting twice a month starting in August and all 9 have expressed interest in doing this trip again next summer and trying to recruit others to join us. Many thanks to Fr. Tom, Chris Evans and Rebecca Swanson for chaperoning and being great role models for our youth.
- **Steubenville Youth Conference:** July 13-15. Rochester, Minnesota
Currently ordering shirts, booking hotel rooms and finalizing last minute paperwork. 7 youth and 3 adults are attending.
- **YM Cookout:** Plans are underway for a high school YM cookout/bonfire at my home in late July per request from the youth.

Middle School

- Plans are underway for our annual “Serve ‘N Slide” overnight for middle school students. This is a collaborative effort with St. Pats and St. Mary’s in Waverly. Dates in early August are still being explored.
- I am once again on the Archdiocesan planning team for the Middle School Youth Jam that will be hosted at Blessed Maria on Oct. 20th. Our planning team meets once a month.
- Working on 2018-2019 YM calendar
- Working on recruiting/training high school juniors and seniors to be a “Peer Ministry Leader Team” to help plan and lead middle school youth nights. Goal is to have the team in place by August 1st with training completed before the school year begins August 23.

Other

- Monthly MAC meetings
- Monthly archdiocesan Youth Ministry advisory committee meetings
- Working on retreat for next year, much like a Kairos retreat, for high school students attending public school. This will be joint effort with several youth ministers in the diocese.

Office Manager

Becky McElroy

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.
- Put in survey monkey surveys for Dave.
- Preparing financial reports for Commission and Team.
- Update records for RE and tracking financial information/scholarships.
- Looking at setting up a system to use for on-line registrations for programs.