

PARISH LEADERSHIP RESOURCES

COMPILED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF NEW EVANGELIZATION



“TEACH MY PEOPLE TO PRAY”

DISCIPLES ON THE WAY

PHASE I: FORMATION IN PRAYER & HOLINESS



Diocese of
Green Bay

New Evangelization

“OUR CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES MUST BECOME *GENUINE* “SCHOOLS” OF PRAYER, WHERE THE MEETING WITH CHRIST IS EXPRESSED NOT JUST IN IMPLORING HELP BUT ALSO IN THANKSGIVING, PRAISE, ADORATION, CONTEMPLATION, LISTENING AND ARDENT DEVOTION, UNTIL THE HEART TRULY “FALLS IN LOVE”... BY OPENING OUR HEART TO THE LOVE OF GOD IT ALSO OPENS IT TO THE LOVE OF OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS, AND MAKES US CAPABLE OF SHAPING HISTORY ACCORDING TO GOD’S PLAN.”

SAINT JOHN PAUL II
NOVO MILLENNIO INEUNTE, 33

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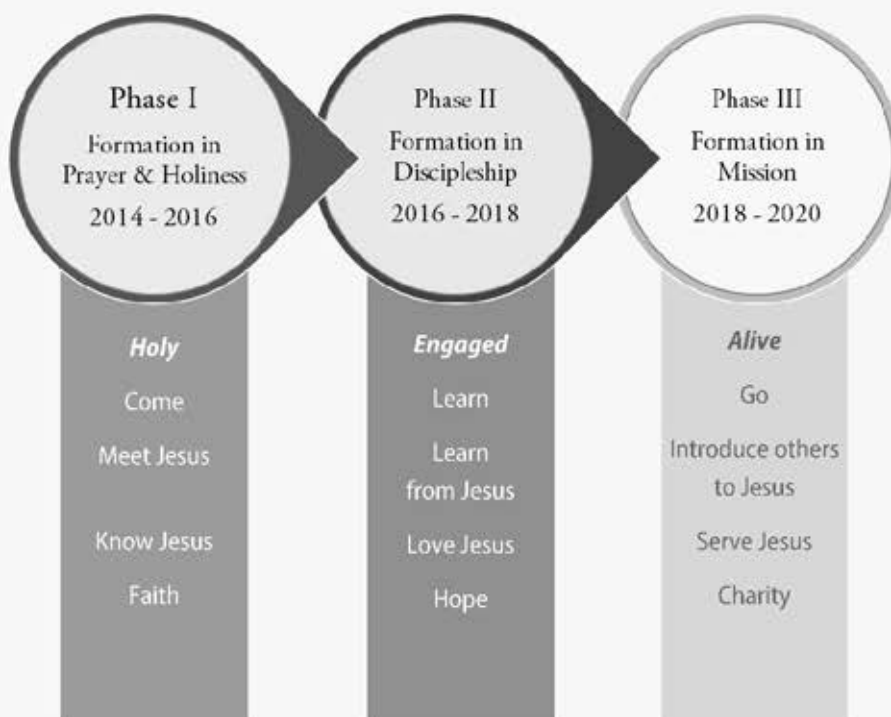
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PHASE I: FORMATION IN PRAYER AND HOLINESS

“The first two years of Bishop Ricken’s Mission Map (2014 – 2016) will be called “Formation in Prayer and Holiness”. Bishop Ricken’s Pastoral Reflection is called “Teach My People To Pray”.

Bishop Ricken, in his invitation, *Disciples on the Way*, asks us “all to focus very clearly on the call to renew our prayer lives by establishing and deepening our relationship with Jesus Christ and His Holy Church. This will mean spending more time as individuals and as families coming to love the Sunday Mass which is the heart of our life as Catholic Christians. It will also mean praying for anyone among our families, our friends and our parishioners who have drifted away from the regular practice of the Catholic faith, and praying for their return to regular nourishment at the table of God’s Word and the table of the Eucharist”.

In “Teach My People To Pray” Bishop Ricken roots the New Evangelization in the call to prayer and holiness. “It strikes me as very important that we begin this six year journey to implement the New Evangelization by deeply rooting our efforts and immersing ourselves in prayer”. He also states that “It is my hope that in the next two years we can build a renewed love for Jesus, cultivate our friendship with Him and that we rekindle or experience for the first time the fires of Divine Love placed in all of us at Baptism” (Bishop Ricken, “Teach My People to Pray”).



A NOTE REGARDING BISHOP RICKEN'S PRIORITIES FOR "TEACH MY PEOPLE TO PRAY"

REQUIRED PARISH GOAL

At the request of Bishop Ricken, each parish within the Diocese is asked to commit themselves to the following project of "Disciples on the Way" Phase I: Formation in Prayer & Holiness:

Eucharistic Holy Hour

Each Parish will have a monthly posted Eucharistic Holy Hour for the needs of the parish, the Diocese, and the Universal Church. Particular attention should be paid to the needs and efforts of the New Evangelization and Disciples on the Way. Parish holy hours will then be posted on the Diocesan website.

"DAYS OF REFLECTION" - LED BY BISHOP RICKEN

Bishop Ricken will lead days of reflection centered on prayer and the call to holiness for those interested in deepening their prayer life. These days are open to all but may be limited due to space. More information on such days will be forthcoming from the Bishop's Office.

Dates include:

- December 13, 2014
- February 21, 2015
- March 28, 2015
- December 19, 2015
- February 13, 2016
- February 27, 2016

FORMATION IN PRAYER AND HOLINESS

SUPPORT FOR YOUR PARISH

FORMATION IN PRAYER AND HOLINESS

Support for Your Parish

1. WHAT IS DISCIPLES ON THE WAY?

“Disciples on the Way” is an invitation from Bishop Ricken to embark on a missionary journey into the new evangelization. This invitation is a deepening of the first pastoral letter entitled “Parishes: Called to be Holy, Fully Engaged, Fully Alive” and is a response to the increasing emphasis within the universal church focused on the new evangelization. This journey is addressed to all Catholics in the Diocese of Green Bay. Bishop Ricken remarks I would like to invite everyone to a journey; a journey of deepening our prayer life, of learning to be better disciples ourselves and of making disciples of others for the sake of the Kingdom of God. I invite each and every one of you to journey as the body of Christ with your Pastor or Pastoral leader and with your fellow parishioners in living out this “mission map” as a “Disciple on the Way”.

The diocesan journey is divided into three emphases over the coming six years:

Formation in Prayer and Holiness (2014 – 2016)

Formation in Discipleship (2016 – 2018)

Formation in Mission (2018 – 2020)

2. HOW DOES THIS RELATE TO BISHOP RICKEN’S DOCUMENT “PARISHES: CALLED TO BE HOLY, FULLY ENGAGED AND FULLY ALIVE”?

Bishop Ricken’s pastoral document was written after a process of discernment was undertaken with significant parish input including feedback from parishes, apostolates, communities and organizations throughout the Diocese. This document will continue to guide our ministerial efforts particularly in the six areas outlined (evangelization, education, youth/young adults and families, leadership, Eucharist, and dignity of human life) along with stewardship and the call to holiness. With the current emphasis on the new evangelization from Pope Francis and his predecessors, Disciples on the Way is an invitation from Bishop Ricken to not necessarily “do more” but to “be more”, to be more Christ life in all of our efforts. Disciples on the Way gathers our Diocese around “prayer-discipleship-mission” which corresponds to the first document where the call to be “holy-engaged-alive” was clearly outlined. As you vision for the new evangelization in your parish and look at your ministries the two documents together will help you to focus your efforts.

3. HOW DOES THIS FIT IN WITH THE BROADER WORK OF THE NEW EVANGELIZATION?

In terms of the broader perspective of the new evangelization and Bishop Ricken's vision, the Department of New Evangelization calls parishes to place the encounter with Christ at the center of all pastoral planning activities. This should not be understood as a one-time experience, but a lasting and ongoing conversion in the life of the faithful. This encounter with Christ is directed to all. Efforts are directed to Diocesan and parish leadership, to those who have been baptized Catholic (those practicing and those who have fallen out of familiarity with the Catholic Church) and to those who have not been baptized.

Understanding that evangelization happens whenever one is encouraged to answer the abiding invitation of Christ, to repent and believe in the good news (*evangelion*, Mark 1:15) and so enter into the joy of the Lord (Matthew 25:3), the Department of New Evangelization of the Diocese of Green Bay will assist the Bishop, parishes and faithful of the Diocese of Green Bay in the following ways.

Holy Engaged Parishes: We will assist parishes in recognizing and identifying how every aspect of parish life and ministry is an opportunity to go out into all the world and make disciples of all peoples (Matthew 28:19). It is primarily in the parish that God's people are brought to new birth through water and the Spirit (John 3:5) and are thus, brought to eternal life in the Body and Blood of his Son (John 6:54). "The parish in and through all of its activities, should animate its members to become agents of the New Evangelization, witnessing through both their words and their lives".¹

Fully Alive Disciples: The Department of New Evangelization will support Christian formation processes designed to help Catholics move from a sense of being merely consumers of religious services to being *disciples* of Christ (Matthew 28:19), concentrating especially on finding ways to foster the habitual practices and *disciplines* of moral transformation, prayer, fasting and almsgiving (cf. Matthew 6) for the sanctification of the world.

4. WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR PHASE I: FORMATION IN PRAYER AND HOLINESS?

"This will mean spending more time as individuals and as families coming to love the Sunday Mass which is the heart of our life as Catholic Christians. It will also mean praying for anyone among our families, our friends and our parishioners who have drifted away from the regular practice of the Catholic faith, and praying for their return to regular nourishment at the table of God's Word and the table of the Eucharist" - Bishop Ricken. The Diocese and parishes in collaboration will find ways to reach, form and teach our Catholic Christians how to pray and to how to love the Sunday Mass. This involves shifting our paradigm from a parish doing more to being more — to becoming more like Christ,

especially as leaders in our parishes in order to form our communities as "schools of prayers".

"A CHURCH WHICH "GOES FORTH"
IS A CHURCH WHOSE DOORS ARE
OPEN."

POPE FRANCIS
EVANGELII GAUDIUM, 46

5. WHEN WILL BISHOP PUBLISH HIS PASTORAL REFLECTION ON PRAYER?

Bishop Ricken will release his Pastoral Exhortation on prayer on August 28, 2014. The name of this document is "Teach My People to Pray". A special Mass will be celebrated on the Solemnity of Christ the King, November 23, 2014, to launch the first phase of "Disciples on the Way: Formation in Prayer and Holiness". Prior to that, Bishop Ricken is seeking input from the various consultative bodies throughout the Diocese including clergy, deacons, members of religious communities, parish leaders and the laity among others.

6. HOW WILL THE DEPARTMENT OF NEW EVANGELIZATION SUPPORT US?

As we enter these next 6 years, this supplemental guide focused on Phase I: Formation in Prayer and Holiness will help parishes to be engaged in the work of new evangelization in order to form fully alive disciples for the Kingdom of God. This resource booklet provides ways in which the parish can reflect upon practical strategies to look at prayer within the new evangelization. A similar resource, compiled by the Department of New Evangelization and other Diocesan Offices will be available for the other two phases: Formation in Discipleship and Formation in Mission. These will be a compliment to Bishop Ricken's two forthcoming pastoral reflections on discipleship and mission. The Department of New Evangelization team is willing to help you with resources, speakers for your events, training, social media tools and formation opportunities for the new evangelization.

7. HOW CAN PARISHES USE THIS PARTICULAR RESOURCE ON PRAYER?

We encourage parishes to use this resource in the creation of their pastoral plan to guide their prayer efforts animated by the lens of the new evangelization. It is recommended that parish staff dialogue about "Disciples on the Way" and use this resource to structure their efforts for Phase I: Formation in Prayer and Holiness. A willingness to be bold and consider looking afresh at the parish through the new evangelization is to be encouraged!

It is good for us to be reminded of the words of Pope Francis: "Pastoral ministry in a missionary key seeks to abandon the complacent attitude that says: "We have always done it this way". I invite everyone to be bold and creative in this task of rethinking the goals, structures, style and methods of evangelization in their respective communities. A proposal of goals without an adequate communal search for the means of achieving them will inevitably prove illusory".²

8. WHY ARE THERE SUGGESTED IDEAS AND STRATEGIES OUTLINED IN THIS BOOKLET? CAN'T WE COME UP WITH OUR OWN?

Pope Francis has called “for a common commitment to a pastoral plan that recalls the essential and that is well centered on the essential, namely Jesus Christ. It is no use to be scattered in so many secondary or superfluous things, but to be concentrated on the fundamental reality, which is the encounter with Christ, with his mercy, with his love, and to love brothers as He loved us.”³ Following Pope Francis’ lead, the suggested ideas and strategies are a starting point to foster a culture of intentional discipleship in your parish. Recognizing that every parish in their particular spiritual tradition, structure and composition, may certainly decide to implement and focus on other ideas as fitting with the particular needs of the parish. These ideas and strategies offered by the Department of New Evangelization are a starting point which you might consider in your pastoral planning. Parishes may focus on some suggested areas or develop their with your own.

9. WHERE DID THE FOCUS AREAS AND INITIATIVES COME FROM?

The ideas and strategies suggested here are the result of a year process begun by the Department of New Evangelization in collating evangelization ideas from documents such as *Evangelii Nuntiandi*, *Go and Make Disciples of All Nations* and *Disciples on the Way* among others. Also taken into consideration was the feedback of over 100 individuals and many parishes regarding new evangelization in the Diocese of Green Bay.

This resource aims to surface the collective wisdom of those who have engaged in this process locally and nationally for many years. The strategies surfaced in this booklet reflect ideas and suggestions that have worked in other parishes locally and around the country. The parish is free to pick and choose which ideas and strategies are appropriate editing and amending as necessary.

10. WHERE CAN I GET EXTRA COPIES OF BISHOP RICKEN’S INVITATION “DISCIPLES ON THE WAY” AND COPIES OF “TEACH MY PEOPLE TO PRAY”?

Every parish in the Diocese should have received 50 copies of the Compass supplement on “Disciples on the Way” and will receive 50 copies of “Teach My People to Pray” through the Compass. Two booklet copies of “Teach My People to Pray” will be made available to every parish.

If you would like extra copies of the Compass supplements such as one copy for every member of your parish, contact the Department of New Evangelization who would be happy to arrange this for your parish. Unfortunately, the booklets that were originally published in the Spring are no longer available.

The Department of New Evangelization will also make this implementation guide available online so parishes may download a copy of this document for their work.

11. WHAT IF I NEED MORE INFORMATION OR HELP?

The Department of New Evangelization is here to help! Contact us at any time to help you in this process.

Department of New Evangelization
(920) 272-8276

For general enquiries related to "Disciples on the Way" please email:
disciplesontheway@gbdioc.org



TARGET AUDIENCES OF
'DISCIPLES ON THE WAY'
& THE NEW EVANGELIZATION

TARGET AUDIENCES OF *DISCIPLES ON THE WAY* & THE NEW EVANGELIZATION

- 1: Leadership: Parish Leadership
- 2: Persons in the Pew (Those who attend regularly and those who attend sporadically)
- 3: Those distant from the Catholic Church and who are no longer attending Church.
- 4: Those who have rejected the Gospel message or those who have never heard the Gospel message.

We are mindful that Pope Francis and his predecessors have identified three areas within which the new evangelization must take place:

"In first place, we can mention the area of *ordinary pastoral ministry*, which is animated by the fire of the Spirit, so as to inflame the hearts of the faithful who regularly take part in community worship and gather on the Lord's day to be nourished by his word and by the bread of eternal life. In this category we can also include those members of faithful who preserve a deep and sincere faith, expressing it in different ways, but seldom taking part in worship. Ordinary pastoral ministry seeks to help believers to grow spiritually so that they can respond to God's love ever more fully in their lives.

A second area is that of *the baptized whose lives do not reflect the demands of Baptism* who lack a meaningful relationship to the Church and no longer experience the consolation born of faith. The Church, in her maternal concern, tries to help them experience a conversion which will restore the joy of faith to their hearts and inspire a commitment to the Gospel.

Lastly, we cannot forget that evangelization is first and foremost about preaching the Gospel to *those who do not know Jesus Christ or who have always rejected him*. Many of these are quietly seeking God, led by a yearning to see his face, even in countries of ancient Christian tradition.

All of them have a right to receive the Gospel. Christians have the duty to proclaim the Gospel without excluding anyone." (EG #14)

This missionary journey endeavors to concentrate on the essential elements of encounter with Christ, witness to Christ, worship of Christ and welcoming others in Christ. "The message has to concentrate on the essentials" remarks Pope Francis, "on what is most beautiful, most grand, most appealing and at the same time most necessary. The message is simplified, while losing none of its depth and truth, and thus becomes all the more forceful and convincing". (EG#36).

SUGGESTED PARISH IDEAS AND
STRATEGIES FOR PHASE I:
FORMATION IN PRAYER AND HOLINESS

SUGGESTED PARISH IDEAS AND STRATEGIES FOR PHASE I: FORMATION IN PRAYER AND HOLINESS

Parishes are free to choose one or more of these ideas and strategies in their pastoral planning or to amend these ideas and strategies as necessary and add their own:

Idea I: To center the new evangelization in the call to holiness and prayer in the parish community.

Idea II: To recognize the power of prayer to effect real and lasting conversion in the Spirit.

Idea III: To ensure that the celebration of the Sacraments is effective and to encourage greater participation in and appreciation of the Sacraments, particularly the Eucharist and the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Idea IV: To identify and implement innovative ways to communicate the importance of Sunday worship and to reclaim the practice of Sunday as a day of holy rest.

NOTE: THREE ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

As we all take seriously Bishop Ricken's challenge to not necessarily do more but to be more, we reflect on the following comment from Bishop Ricken:

"We will continue doing many of the things we are already doing, discontinue some of the things we are currently doing, and re-enforce all of our activities and dispositions by focusing on our prayer lives, answering the call to holiness".

With that in mind, a helpful series of questions to ask in relation to all your new evangelization efforts are:

What do we need to **STOP** doing in our parish?

What do we need to **START** doing in our parish?

What do we need to **KEEP** doing in our parish?

Idea I: To center the new evangelization in the call to holiness and prayer in the parish, focused on a renewed encounter with Christ through the Catholic Church.

- Offering a weekly and/or monthly Holy Hour with an invitation to the entire parish community to attend.
- Parish staff are encouraged to attend weekday Mass during the course of their workday as available.
- Begin and end every parish meeting and event (yes, even the parish picnic!) with substantive prayer, including time for reflection. (See the resource section of this booklet for great websites with prayers for your use).
- Take a renewed look at the prayer groups (such as Rosary societies, Charismatic Renewal Groups etc) in your parish. Consider how they can be an active part of this process and consult with them for ways to keep the encounter with Christ and the Catholic Church at the center of the new evangelization.
- Promote the work of such prayer groups at the parish, inviting them to contribute a bulletin article, give talks/classes at the parish or a witness talk following Mass for parishioners.
- To offer at the parish or in collaboration with other parishes continued formation in prayer and the spiritual treasures of the Church especially during the Advent and Lenten season. Particularly consider the small faith sharing format which is especially effective. (Small faith sharing resources are included in the resource section)
- Have a dedicated space in the parish bulletin or on the parish website devoted to prayer, particularly the patron of the parish. For example, if your parish is named for St. Dominic consider including prayers to St. Dominic on the parish website, bulletin and teaching youth in the Catholic school or the religious education classes about St. Dominic.
- Celebrate the feast day of the patron saint of the parish and to look at this feast day in a renewed way.
- Consider including a prayer of the patron saint of the parish at worship, for committee use, on your website, for catechists, teachers, religious education and Catholic school students.
- Host or participate in a parish retreat /parish mission in the areas of prayer, spirituality and living out of the faith.
- Include prayers of the faithful focused on vocations — to the priesthood, religious and consecrated life, to the diaconate, the single life and for holy marriages.

- ___ Encourage Eucharistic devotions and adoration and promote this as a means of the spiritual renewal of the community through holy hours, small faith sharing groups, etc.
- ___ Consider using the prayer entitled “A Prayer For Those Who Will Answer the Phone” or write your own to ensure that our welcoming efforts at parish as we answer the phone are Christ centered. (See resource section for information on this and other prayers)
- ___ When interviewing prospective candidates during the hiring process for a parish position, does the search committee pray with the candidate at the beginning and end of the interview?
- ___ Consider sharing a prayer from the Catholic school/religious education children in the prayers of the faithful or printing them in the parish bulletin periodically.
- ___ Local religious communities are a source of tremendous wisdom, inspiration and strength for our parishes.
- ___ Consider reaching out to your local religious community to ask for prayers for your parish.
- ___ Consider inviting members of religious communities into the parish to witness and to speak at parish events and activities.
- ___ Many religious communities have trained spiritual directors. Be in touch with them so that you can refer parishioners to them.

Idea II: To recognize the power of prayer to effect real and lasting conversion in the Spirit.

- ___ Consider the work of your parish committees and being more intentional about infusing these meetings with a richer experience of prayer. Parish meetings often take place once per month.
- ___ Consider in place of a “business” meeting a meeting instead focusing on deepening the committee members prayer life once or twice a year.
- ___ Consider also gifting each member of the committee with a resource/book/booklet that will help in deepening their prayer lives. Pray and read from this resource during meetings inviting faith sharing as appropriate. (see resource section for helpful books/booklets that you might use)
- ___ Encourage parish leaders and parishioners to invite and to actively engage in spiritual direction. If there is a spiritual director within the parish community or broader local community consider reaching out to invite that person(s) to meet with people, lead classes on prayer and provide spiritual direction.
- ___ Host or encourage parish leaders and parishioners to participate in a retreat experience such as the following: Christ Renews His Parish, Christian Experience Weekend, Koinonia or Cursillo. (For details or contact information see resources section)
- ___ Encourage parishioners to “Pray for Those in the Pew”. With those who regularly attend Mass and often sit in the same pew, they would be asked to “spiritually adopt” a particular pew and to actively pray for those who will sit in that pew.
- ___ Consider gifting parishioners with a book on prayer during the Christmas or the Easter season. (see resource section for suggestions of books).
- ___ Provide homebound parishioners with specific prayers for the needs of the parish community.
- ___ Distribute a booklet or the names of those who will make their First Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation to homebound parishioners.
- ___ Consider putting a “prayer book” in the Adoration room, chapel (if you have one) for parishioners to share their prayer intentions. Consider bringing this prayer book up to the altar during the preparation of gifts periodically.
- ___ Encourage pastors, deacons and parish leaders to review the “Preaching and the New Evangelization: A Study Guide for Homilies” booklet available from the Department of New Evangelization.

- ___ Participate in Diocesan workshops (*starting 2015*) or host a parish workshop for ushers/greeters and other ministers of hospitality focused on their role in the new evangelization.
- ___ Consider the unique culture and traditions of your parish community. Look for opportunities to offer unique Masses that speak to the real needs of the people in your parish.
- ___ For example, in areas where hunting is a tradition could you offer a “Blaze Orange” Mass where hunters are blessed wearing blaze orange before they go into the woods? The prayer to St. Hubert could be recited and hunters could be given a blessed medal of St. Hubert. Acknowledgement could be given to young hunters who just got their Hunter Safety at this Mass.
- ___ If your parish has a high percentage of firefighters or medical personnel perhaps you could do a special mass in their honor held on an appropriate feast day.
- ___ If your parish has adults or children with special needs consider hosting a special blessing or Mass in their honor on an appropriate feast day such as the feast day of Our Lady of Lourdes.
- ___ If your parish is near a lake consider holding a “blessing of the boats” ceremony prior to the opening of the boating or fishing season.
- ___ Consider times when you have parents/grandparents present in your parish for Catholic school and religious education events such as “Parent nights”, “Graduations”, “End of year celebrations”. How might you make these experiences more prayerful and inspiring?

Idea III: To ensure that the celebration of the Sacraments is effective and to encourage greater participation in and appreciation of the Sacraments, particularly the Eucharist and the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

- ___ Consider your parish environment- offices, classrooms, worship space etc. The questions below are meant to be conversation starters rather than a “to do” list for your parish. It is often the environment that we gather in for worship, formation and for fellowship that makes a lasting impression on a family and a determining factor in their parish membership. The book “Rebuilt” (see resource section for details) details very helpful tips and insights on the following questions:
- ___ Does every room in the parish including office space have a visible crucifix or piece of religious art that is aesthetically pleasing?
- ___ In your waiting rooms, offices and classrooms are there a “prayer space”, or prayer table?
- ___ Are the parish offices welcoming, prayerful and inviting? Are the offices cluttered and unattractive? What could be done simply to improve these physical spaces? Could a scripture verse or a piece of religious art be painted on a large wall rather than leaving a blank space?
- ___ Is your narthex at Church or gathering space a mismatch of assorted lost and found items, outdated pamphlets and bulletin boards or a space that is attractive and speaks to the spiritual tradition of the parish?
- ___ Do you have artwork of your parishes patron saint displayed in a prominent location?
- ___ Could you rename rooms from being merely functional to being more Catholic such as the “Music Room” to the St. Cecilia Music Room? Or the “Teacher’s Lounge” to the St. Scholastica Lounge for example?
- ___ Consider your “cry room” if you have one. Do you have a sign that says “cry room”? Could you rename this room the Family Room or the St. Ann Family Room for example? Is this room a room that families would find attractive? Is it clean? Are there age appropriate religious books/materials in this space?
- ___ Is the “signage” on doors etc too explicit and cautionary? For example — “Turn off cell phones” versus “You are entering a sacred space, please silence your cell phone”.
- ___ Do you have aids available in the Church or Reconciliation room to help people who might be away from the sacraments for some time?

- ___ Consider how the Church space is used. Is it truly a sacred space prayerful and inviting or a multi-purpose room where talks, gatherings, etc are held? If you use your Church for other things besides worship how might you communicate to those who gather in the Church the importance of seeing the Church not as a multi-purpose room but as a place of prayer and healing?
- ___ Is the sound, lighting and temperature comfortable in your worship space?
- ___ Are your waiting spaces a place where people are comfortable? Are they attractive? Is there up to date religious reading in this space?
- ___ Consider the life-stages of your parishioners and create an opportunity for prayer experiences that speak to their life stage. For example:
 - ___ When young adults receive their driver's license — could a blessing be extended to those new drivers?
 - ___ For those entering retirement-could a special recognition be extended to them?
- ___ Consider the times during the year when Mass attendance increases such as Christmas, Easter, Palm Sunday and Ash Wednesday.
- ___ How might your parishioners that do not come as often to Church feel more welcomed and invited?
- ___ Do your ministers of hospitality/ushers prepare for these times? What additional preparation might they need?
- ___ Do ministers of hospitality/ushers pray together before Mass begins? Encourage them to pray together before Mass so that they can truly reflect Christ's love to those who are new or returning to the Church. Encourage them to share who might be new or returning and provide that information to the parish staff.
- ___ Is there an explicit welcome made to newcomers or those who are sharing special birthdays, anniversaries etc before Mass begins?
- ___ For homeowners — consider extending an offer to parishioners to have their homes blessed. For new homeowners provide a blessed gift from the parish including a prayer card.
- ___ Consider marriage and baptismal preparation. Does the parish pray with the couples through the process? Are couples provided with resources on prayer? Does modeling of how to pray as an individual, as a couple and as a family happen?

- Register and update your parish Mass and Reconciliation times for inclusion on the Diocesan website. Contact the Department of Communications for help with this by emailing webhelpdesk@gbdioc.org
- Participate and register your parish's additional confession times during the "Light is On for You" campaign.
- Schedule additional opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation during the Lenten season and Advent with an express invitation to all parishioners to attend.
- Review and share with parishioners attractive and well written resources on the Sacraments particularly the Sacraments of Eucharist and Reconciliation.
- Connect parishioners to catechetical and formational materials regarding confession. See resource section for information regarding the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
- Invite pastors, parish directors, deacons etc to witness to the power of prayer and the benefits of confession in their own lives in the bulletin, in the homilies, in their reflections.

Idea IV: To identify and implement innovative ways to communicate the importance of Sunday worship and to reclaim the practice of Sunday as a day of holy rest.

- Take a renewed look at the parish and school calendar to ensure that Sunday and particularly Sunday afternoons and evenings are considered a normative day of rest.
- Utilize Bishop Ricken's *Dies Domini* series in small faith groups / adult faith formation. *(provided to each pastor at the Clergy Congress 2013, extra copies are available for loan through the Department of New Evangelization. Contact disciplesontheway@gbdioc.org)*
- Avoid scheduling parish and school meetings, activities, events and practices on Sunday evenings.
- Consider a dialogue with local school leaders about the importance of Sunday rest for families and particularly children.

PARISH REFLECTION:
A CALL TO PRAYER AND HOLINESS

PARISH REFLECTION: A CALL TO PRAYER AND HOLINESS

(The following points might be helpful to start or encourage deeper conversation around the area of prayer within the new evangelization. Consider exploring this section with parish leaders, committees, boards, etcetera.)

INSPIRATION

"The parish is the presence of the Church in a given territory, an environment for hearing God's word, for growth in the Christian life, for dialogue, proclamation, charitable outreach, worship and celebration".⁴

"It is a community of communities, a sanctuary where the thirsty come to drink in the midst of their journey, and a center of constant missionary outreach".⁵

"The best incentive for sharing the Gospel comes from contemplating it with love, lingering over its pages and reading it with the heart. If we approach it in this way, its beauty will amaze and constantly excite us. But if this is to come about, we need to recover a contemplative spirit which can help us to realize ever anew that we have been entrusted with a treasure which makes us more human and helps us to lead a new life. There is nothing more precious which we can give to others".⁶

"It is this face of Christ that must be rediscovered through the Sacrament of Penance".⁷

"The Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life. The other sacraments, and indeed all ecclesiastical ministries and works of the apostolate, are bound up with the Eucharist and are oriented toward it".⁸

REFLECTION

For most Catholics, their primary contact with parish life will be at Sunday Mass and their opportunity to encounter Christ in the sacrament of Eucharist. As such, the Mass is a powerful instrument for evangelization and every effort should be made to cultivate an environment that intentionally fosters intentional discipleship during Sunday Mass. Attention and care should be especially directed to the welcoming process, the music, the preaching and to the integration of families with young children into the community. Attention should also be given to bridging the gap between Sunday Mass and a life of discipleship in calling "people to a more effective integration of daily prayer in their lives, especially the ancient practice of praying the psalms and the Church's Liturgy of the Hours, contemplation of the mysteries of the life of Christ through the Rosary and a greater reverence of the Eucharist through adoration of the Blessed Sacrament".⁹ Worship involves not only participation in Sunday Mass but also the celebration of the sacraments.

It is in participating in the sacraments and the sacramentals of Catholic life that credible disciples emerge.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation contains the elements of conversion, confession and celebration. It is this sacrament which changes us, challenges us and equips us as disciples of our Lord Jesus Christ to reach out to others and to transform the world for Christ. The Sacrament of Reconciliation brings us into intimate contact with Jesus where we are liberated from the sins that trouble our hearts and minds and experience God's unconditional forgiveness and mercy so that we can be a living fountain of forgiveness and mercy to others. When this liberation happens through the Sacrament of Reconciliation we are better disposed to proclaim the Gospel with both words and deeds. A renewed approach to the Sacrament of Reconciliation should be encouraged in the parish with an explicit invitation to those who regularly attend confession, those who attend sporadically and those who do not attend at all. Spend time reflecting on the reasons why people may not come to confession. They may not have a personal relationship with Christ or a sense of sin, they may need more catechesis regarding the sacrament, they may be fearful because they have not been in many years, they may have had a bad experience in the past or the times that confession is available may be limited and not convenient.

THE ENCOUNTER WITH CHRIST IS AT THE CENTER OF THE NEW EVANGELIZATION

INSPIRATION

I invite all Christians, everywhere, at this very moment, to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ, or at least an openness to letting him encounter them; I ask all of you to do this unfailingly each day. No one should think that this invitation is not meant for him or her, since "no one is excluded from the joy brought by the Lord".¹⁰

"Our hope is not in a program or philosophy but in the person of Jesus Christ, who comforts those who are burdened".¹¹

"Too often we presume that all those in leadership at the Diocesan and parish level, those involved in parish activities, those who teach in our schools and religious education programs and those sitting in our pews have been evangelized. The reality is that we can no longer assume that this is the case. The majority of Catholics in the United States are **sacramentalized but not evangelized**. They do



not know that an explicit, personal attachment to Christ-personal discipleship is normative Catholicism as taught by the apostles and reiterated time and time again by the popes, councils and saints of the Church".¹²

REFLECTION

We must ensure that an encounter with Christ is kept at the center of planning for the new evangelization. This should not be understood as a one-time experience, but a lasting and ongoing conversion in the life of the faithful. This encounter with Christ is directed to all. In the context of this strategic ministry plan, this plan is directed to Diocesan and parish leadership, to those who have been baptized Catholic (those practicing and those who have fallen out of familiarity with the Catholic Church) and to those who have not been baptized.

It is imperative that we set aside the assumption that those who minister for the Catholic Church, those who are engaged on our parish councils, committees and apostolates and those in our pews have had an encounter with Christ and are all evangelized. We mistakenly assume that those who participate in the multitude of ministries in the Church are evangelized but this is often not the case. Matthew Kelly mentions in his book *The Four Signs of A Dynamic Catholic* that his research at the The Dynamic Catholic Institute intimates that only approximately 7% of those in our parishes are evangelized¹³. Participation and involvement in the life of the Church clearly does not qualify as discipleship.

INTRODUCTION TO *LECTIO DIVINA*

A key means to reinvigorate the life of our parishes, our communities and our own prayer lives is the ancient practice of *Lectio Divina*. Bishop Ricken's pastoral reflection "Teach My People To Pray" asks us to practice *Lectio Divina*, to introduce *Lectio Divina* to those who might not have experienced this ancient prayer form and to encourage those who practice this in their prayer life to continually deepen their experience of the Scriptures. In the resource section of the book you will find some excellent resources on ***Lectio Divina*** to help you in your understanding of this practice and how to introduce it to others.

Lectio Divina, is a Latin word, which means "divine reading" and describes a way of reading the Scriptures whereby we gradually let go and open ourselves up to what God is saying to us and asking of us.

The first stage in the process is *lectio* (reading) where we read the Word of God, slowly and reflectively so that it can take root in us. We allow the words and or verses to capture our hearts as God speaks to our hearts.

The second stage is *meditatio* (reflection) where we think about the text that we have chosen and ponder it in our hearts so that we can take from it what God wants to give us. Through the Scripture passage we allow the scenes, images, sounds and thoughts that come to mind to draw us even more deeply into the passage.

The third stage is *oratio* (response) where we leave our thinking aside and simply let our hearts speak to God. This response is inspired by our reflection on the Word of God. This stage moves us to a prayerful response as we converse with the Lord.

The final stage of *Lectio Divina* is *contemplatio* (rest) where we let go of our own ideas, plans and meditations and we simply rest in the Word of God, a holy rest which renews and sustains us. Through this phase our attention is centered on God and we allow Him to refresh and restore us for a new beginning.



SUGGESTED RESOURCE LIST

SUGGESTED RESOURCE LIST

This resource list incorporates books, documents, programs and events centered around prayer. It is not meant to be an exhaustive list but a guide to help in your planning.

DEPARTMENT OF NEW EVANGELIZATION'S FAVORITE BOOKS ON PRAYER

Giving one of the books below would make an excellent gift of parishioners during the Christmas season, to parish committees, catechists, teachers and parents. The books identified below would make excellent resources small faith sharing groups or adult faith formation classes. This is not meant to be an exhaustive list but indicative of some books that might be helpful for you to share with others. Insight from the Scriptures, the great spiritual teachers and wisdom from the ancients is often included in these books.

"Paths to Prayer" by Bishop Robert Morneau (highly recommended)

We are blessed in the Diocese of Green Bay with the gift of Bishop Morneau and his extensive writings. There are many excellent books that Bishop Morneau has written which would be appropriate for Phase 1: Prayer and Holiness. "Paths to Prayer" outlines the principles of prayer, habits of prayerful people, a practical approach to prayer, and advice about overcoming obstacles to prayer. Bishop Morneau's shows how the "Our Father" is the central prayer of Christians and how the Beatitudes and Eucharist call us to a more prayerful life.

Also excellent seasonal resources by Bishop Morneau include: "Not by Bread Alone: Daily Reflections for Lent" and "Waiting in Joyful Hope: Reflections for Advent and Christmas".

Books by Father Alfred McBride, O.Praem.

Father Alfred (Al) McBride is a much loved and respected author, speaker and presenter throughout the United States. His many articles and books have contributed made a substantial contribution to the Diocese of Green Bay and to the universal Church. Two books in particular that focus on prayer and holiness include:

"Celebrating Mass: A Guide for Understanding and Loving the Mass More Deeply "

Celebrating Mass extends an earnest invitation to know and love the Mass more deeply, concentrating upon the Eucharist as "the heart and summit of the Church's life" (CCC 1407). Areas of focus include the scriptural and historical background of the Last Supper, the parts of the Mass, the various Eucharistic Prayers, and the rich symbolism present in the liturgical environment and objects. The guidebook assists readers in understanding and more actively participating in the Mass.

“How to Pray Like Jesus and the Saints: A Study Guide for Catholics”

Following in the footsteps of the Apostles, *How to Pray Like Jesus and the Saints* focuses on the prayer lives of St. Augustine, St. Catherine of Siena, St. Ignatius, St. Teresa of Avila, St. Francis de Sales, and St. Therese of Lisieux. Whether used as a springboard for personal spiritual growth or in small-group study, this book will enlighten and motivate you through Fr. McBride’s storytelling skills supported by discussion questions, supplementary passages for contemplation, and thematic art.

“Practicing the Presence of God” by Brother Lawrence

(a Bishop Ricken favorite!)

Brother Lawrence was a man of humble beginnings who discovered the greatest secret of living in the kingdom of God here on earth. It is the art of “practicing the presence of God in one single act that does not end.” He often stated that it is God who paints Himself in the depths of our soul. We must merely open our hearts to receive Him and His loving presence. For nearly 300 years this unparalleled classic has given both blessing and instruction to those who can be content with nothing less than knowing God in all His majesty and feeling His loving presence throughout each simple day.

“WRAP Yourself in Scripture: Reading, Praying, and Reflecting on Scripture with Journaling” by Karen and Lawrence Dwyer

The book *WRAP Yourself in Scripture* is an introduction to the *lectio divina* technique entitled ‘WRAP’. WRAP is an acronym that stands for Write, Reflect, Apply, and Pray. The goal of WRAP is to foster a personal encounter and conversation with Jesus Christ through immersion within the Scriptures. The book contains instructions about how to use this Scripture study method, as well as a WRAP worksheet and suggested Scripture passages to use for reflection.

“Conversing with God in Scripture: A Contemporary Approach to *Lectio Divina*” by Stephen Binz

In this practical and inspirational book, Stephen Binz shows how we can read and reflect on Scripture in ways that enable us to hear God speaking to us in our thoughts and hearts. He explains how to converse with God in prayer, which will lead to contemplation and life-changing action. With a clarity that all will welcome, Binz explains the elements, characteristics, and benefits of *lectio divina*. This book is suitable both for beginners and those seasoned in prayer as well as for those in faith-sharing and Bible study groups. Seven examples from biblical passages show readers how to use *lectio divina*. Questions for reflection and discussion follow each chapter.

“Meeting Jesus Christ- Meditations on the Word” by J. Brian Bransfeld

Step into meditations on mysteries from the life of Jesus. In this spiritual companion, you are invited to personally encounter Jesus Christ through twenty-one Scriptural meditations which unlock unique perspectives on the mysteries of his life. Revealing how the Word of God is a light for all of us, best-selling author Monsignor J. Brian Bransfeld shows you how to develop a more meaningful relationship with Christ through prayer. Whether you are seeking to revive or deepen your prayer life, this book will bring you into fruitful conversation with Jesus. Each chapter takes up a different Gospel account from pages of the New Testament and draws you into meditation. Highlighting the new in the familiar, this guide equips you with a refreshing way to deepen your prayer life through looking for the unexpected in Scripture. Extending beyond sentimental, self-styled meditations that only focus on the self, this book focuses on Jesus in a way that opens up the mystery and beauty to your everyday life.

“The Holy Way: Practices for a Simple Life” by Paula Huston

Is leading a simple life possible in a world of chaos and complexity? Driven by this searching question, Paula Huston, a busy forty-something college professor, wife, and mother, embarked on a spiritual journey to find a peaceful, less cluttered kind of life. *The Holy Way: Practices for a Simple Life* is the fruit of Huston’s arduous search. Two discoveries sustained her: that she herself could experience simple living just as a nearby community of Catholic monks did and, more important, that she could find the keys to such a life in the lives and writings of the great monastic saints. Drawing on these discoveries, Huston examines a variety of measures that point the way toward the practical, day-to-day simplicity of a life that so many desire.

“Prayer for Beginners” by Peter Kreeft

Peter Kreeft brings his unique insights to this most important area of our spiritual lives. He claims he himself is still a beginner in prayer, and this book is for all those, like him, who feel that they are not good at praying but desire to become much better at it. Thus, Kreeft offers simple, but profound advice and practical steps for developing a prayer life based on the time-tested wisdom of the saints and great spiritual writers, especially the principles found in Brother Lawrence’s classic, *The Practice of the Presence of God*. In short, straight-forward and unsentimental chapters, Kreeft covers all the key areas for understanding and developing that intimate form of communication with our Creator that we call prayer. He covers such areas as the necessity of prayer, various motives and methods, steps, patience, suffering, sin, faith, and grace.

“Hungry for God: Practical Help in Personal Prayer” by Ralph Martin

In this classic work on the spiritual life, Ralph Martin gives readers the tools for entering more fully into a fruitful relationship with God. Prayer is a gift, not a burden. Through it the Holy Spirit draws us into the Trinity, satisfying the hunger for God that lies within every human heart.

“The Five Pillars of the Spiritual Life: A Practical Guide for Active People”
by Fr. Robert Spitzer

A Practical Guide to Prayer for Active People by Fr. Robert Spitzer, S.J. Based on many successful retreats and seminars given over the years, Fr. Spitzer presents five essential means through which the contemplative and active aspects of our lives can be fused together for a stronger spiritual life. These five means are: the Holy Eucharist, spontaneous prayer, the Beatitudes, partnership with the Holy Spirit and the contemplative life itself. This book is a jump start to a deeper spiritual life for today's active people!

“Prayers Before the Bell: Inviting Christ Into the Classroom” by Betty Manion
(a practical and prayerful resource that is indispensable in the classroom!)

Prayers Before the Bell offers catechists, teachers, and parents more than 250 original prayers to guide students through the school year and liturgical calendar as well as special occasions. Each week's theme is reinforced with a discussion question, Scripture passage, and 5 daily prayers that support students as they grow in their relationship with God. A section of special-occasion prayers covers topics such as exam days, athletic events, 100th Day of School, holidays, and graduation. Betty Manion is a very popular local speaker and retreat presenter and is currently the Director of Religious Education at St. Mary Magdalene Parish in Waupaca.

“The Parish as the School of Prayer: Foundations of the New Evangelization”
by Fr. Scott Traynor

Father Scott Traynor's book *The Parish as a School of Prayer: Foundations for the New Evangelization* recognizes Blessed John Paul II's urging for priests to transform their parishes into powerhouses of prayer. The world today poses many hazards that are capable of progressively undermining faith. Divine Love alone is capable of inspiring, directing, and sustaining the Christian's mission to transform culture according to God's plan. The priest must become a Christian witness of prayer. He should not draw attention to himself but to the utter necessity, goodness, and beauty of deepening intimacy with God in prayer. In calling the parish to the life of prayer, the priest is uniting himself with God's own loving initiative.

“Catholic Household and Blessings”

by the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops

Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers contains prayers that have marked the joys, sorrows, and daily routines of many generations. Included in this volume are chapters on basic prayers, daily prayers, a useful calendar of saints, and blessings for all the seasons of the year. Also, included in this compendium are prayers to the Virgin Mary; the Liturgy of the Hours; prayers upon waking, at mealtime and before retiring for the night; prayers and blessings for feast days and holidays; prayers during times of anger, forgiveness, sickness, loss, grief, thanksgiving, conflict; as well as prayers for the Church and lay people alike.

REFERENCE BOOKS

These books contain many helpful tips/techniques and strategies that would make excellent reading for parish leadership teams.

Rebuilt: Awakening the Faithful, Reaching the Lost and Making Church Matter

by Tom Corcoran & Fr. Michael White

Drawing on the wisdom gleaned from thriving mega-churches and innovative business leaders while anchoring their vision in the Eucharistic center of Catholic faith, Fr. Michael White and lay associate Tom Corcoran present the compelling and inspiring story to how they brought their parish back to life. When their parish reached a breaking point, White and Corcoran asked themselves how they could make the Church matter to Catholics, and they realized the answer was at the heart of the Gospel. Their faithful response not only tripled their weekend mass attendance, but also yielded increased giving, flourishing ministries, and a vibrant, solidly Catholic spiritual revival. White and Corcoran invite all Catholic leaders to share the vision, borrow their strategies, and rebuild their own parishes. They offer a wealth of guidance for anyone with the courage to hear them.

Forming Intentional Disciples: The Path to Knowing and Following Jesus

by Sherry Weddell

How can we transmit a living, personal Catholic faith to future generations? By coming to know Jesus Christ, and following him as his disciples. This work of discipleship lies at the heart of *Forming Intentional Disciples*, a book designed to help Church leaders, parish staff and all Catholics transform parish life from within. Drawing upon her fifteen years of experience with the Catherine of Siena Institute, Sherry Weddell leads readers through steps that will help Catholics enter more deeply into a relationship with God and the river of apostolic creativity, charisms, and vocation that flow from that relationship for the sake of the Church and the world.

Learn about the five thresholds of postmodern conversion, how to open a conversation about faith and belief, how to ask thought-provoking questions and establish an atmosphere of trust, when to tell the Great Story of Jesus, how to help someone respond to God's call to intentional discipleship, and much more. And be prepared for conversion because when life at the parish level changes, the life of the whole Church will change.

BOOKLETS

The Holy Eucharist Prayer Book by Fr. Alfred McBride

A collection of traditional and original prayers aimed at assisting you to prepare for the celebration of the Mass, preparing to receive Holy Communion, offering thanks and praise after accepting the Body and Blood of Christ, coming before our Lord in Eucharistic adoration, and making a spiritual Communion when attending Mass is not possible.

Give Us this Day

Deeply rooted in the Catholic tradition, *Give Us This Day* is about prayer-praying daily, praying well, praying with confidence. *Give Us This Day* supports your desire to establish prayer as a part of your life, enhancing your existing practices and deepening your encounter with God by providing:

- A practical approach to daily prayer
- Prayers and readings for daily Mass
- Daily prayer, Morning and Evening

A reflection on the Scriptures for each day.

Magnificat

Magnificat is a lavishly printed, visually stunning, and easy-to-read pocket-sized daily Mass companion, for use in church or at home and ideal for personal or family prayer. At over 400 pages each month, Magnificat features the complete readings for each Sunday, weekday and feast day Mass; daily reflections on the Gospel from the church's greatest minds past and present; a fresh take on the lives of the saints.

Each day also includes beautiful prayers for both morning and evening, drawn from the riches of the Liturgy of the Hours; and each issue concludes with a discussion — and quality reproduction — of a masterpiece of sacred art. Magnificat publishes 12 monthly issues a year, as well as two special issues for Christmas week and Holy week.

Our Daily Bread

Throughout the day, in countless locations and in dozens of countries around the world, Our Daily Bread is read by millions of people. And for every person who opens its pages, one thing is always true: It points to the joy of a relationship with Jesus Christ and the timeless wisdom found in God's Holy Word. Our Daily Bread is published and distributed worldwide in more than 55 languages by affiliated ministries around the globe. Today, Our Daily Bread is distributed via print, large-print, radio, podcast, email, RSS, and mobile. For social networking users, find Our Daily Bread on Twitter, Facebook, Google+, and Instagram.

WEBSITES

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

The USCCB website is replete with documents and helpful resources on Prayer and Worship:

- Information on popular devotions and practices, including Eucharistic and Marian
- Catechetical Materials
- Commentaries on the Mass
- Resources
- Frequently Asked Questions

For information on prayer go to:

<http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/prayers-and-devotions/index.cfm>

For information on the Mass go to:

<http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/the-mass/index.cfm>

Daily readings, including audio materials can be found at:

<http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/061314.cfm>

For information on the sacraments with excellent resources on confession visit:

<http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/sacraments-and-sacramentals/index.cfm>

The USCCB has produced an excellent resource entitled "Why go to Sunday Mass?" that would be perfect for distribution to parishioners who have questions regarding the Mass. For details visit:

<http://www.usccbpublishing.org/productdetails.cfm?sku=7-279>

Vatican Resources

The Vatican website has a very succinct and clear listing of the documents of Vatican II which are a wealth of information and source of inspiration on prayer. Visit: http://www.vatican.va/archive/hist_councils/ii_vatican_council/index.htm

Aleteia which is affiliated with the Vatican is a great resource for people searching and seeking information about their faith. It also contains great resources, written in an easily accessible format on prayer. Aleteia provides daily devotional materials, including the daily Gospel, saint of the day, a quote for reflection, and more. Click here for more information:

<http://www.aleteia.org/en>

Diocese of Green Bay

The Department of Stewardship and Pastoral Services has an excellent listing of parish meeting prayers which might be helpful for you. Visit here to download prayers you can use for your parish meetings:

<http://www.gbdioc.org/parish-resources/meeting-prayers.html>

In addition, prayers such as the "discipleship meeting prayer" and the prayer for "Those who will answer the phone" can be found here:

<http://www.gbdioc.org/prayer-resources-for-your-parish.html>

The Department of Stewardship and Pastoral Services has also created Lenten Prayer Resources in past years which can currently be accessed on the Diocesan website. They include resources and prayers for families, styles of prayer and bulletin inserts for parishes to name a few. Access these resources using the link below:

<http://www.gbdioc.org/stewardship-and-pastoral-services/stewardship/resource-packets.htm>

Relevant Radio

Relevant Radio provides considerable support to the Diocese of Green Bay in its scheduling, organization and programming. Mass is broadcast on Relevant Radio in addition to the Rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet. They have an app that can be downloaded so that you can always hear Relevant Radio and archival of all past shows online.

Visit www.relevantradio.com for more information.

Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN) features Catholic Q & A, a Catholic Document Library, an Audio Library, Catholic News, a daily Catholic podcast, programming and more. They have many helpful resources and articles on prayer and the sacraments.

For information on devotionals and prayers visit:

<http://www.ewtn.com/Devotionals/prayers>

For daily readings visit: <https://www.ewtn.com/daily-readings>

Pray as You Go

Pray as you go is a daily prayer session, designed for use on computers and portable MP3 players, to help you pray whenever you find time, but particularly whilst travelling to and from work, study, etc.

A new prayer session is produced every day of the working week and one session for the weekend. It is not a 'Thought for the Day', a sermon or a bible-study, but rather a framework for your own prayer.

Lasting between ten and thirteen minutes, it combines music, scripture and some questions for reflection. Visit www.pray-as-you-go.com

Catholics Come Home - Good Confession

For excellent information and interactive resources related to the Sacrament of Reconciliation visit: <http://www.goodconfession.com/>

Sacred Space

Sacred Space is a prayer site, updated daily, which guides you through a ten minute session of prayer, centred on a passage of scripture chosen specially for the day. It is a resource provided by the Jesuits.

Visit www.sacredspace.ie

Notre Dame University

Notre Dame University has a website devoted to daily faith sharing. It is particularly suited to young adults and college students.

Visit <http://faith.nd.edu/s/1210/faith/start.aspx?gid=609&pgid=61>

Ascension Catholic Church, Fr. Tobin's writings

Father Tobin, pastor of Ascension Catholic Church in Florida has some good booklets on prayer and the Mass that can be downloaded free at the links below. See also the recommendation from Fr. Al McBride O.F.M regarding Father Tobin's work below.

<http://www.ascensioncatholic.net/tobin/themass/>

<http://www.ascensioncatholic.net/tobin/prayers/>

"Father Eamon Tobin's explanation of the parts of the Mass and of the Liturgical Year is informative, inspiring and spiritually nourishing. He offers an exciting plan for a living, active and faith-filled participation in the liturgy with extensive and illuminating comments, reflection questions and pastoral tips. His pastoral heart is present on every page of his book."

- Father Alfred McBride, O. Praem., St. Joseph Priory, De Pere, WI

Priests of the Clerical Association

The "Association of Mary, Mother of the Church" was formed to both enhance the personal prayer life of member priests and advance their awareness and defense of the dignity of the sick and the elderly. A three disc CD set was created by the member Priests of the Clerical Association, Mary, Mother of the Church. It is an inspiration for those who are sick and suffering and includes comments by Bishop Ricken.

www.clericalassociation.com

APPS/SOCIAL MEDIA

The Diocese of Green Bay provides several places online where individuals can connect and share their witness of faith within the social networks.

Bishop David L. Ricken has his own Twitter account (@BpDavidRicken) at www.twitter.com/BpDavidRicken.

The Diocese of Green Bay can also be found on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/dioceseofgreenbay>) and Twitter (www.twitter.com/GreenBayDiocese).

The Compass, the official newspaper for the Diocese of Green Bay, can also be found on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/TheCompassNews>) and Twitter (www.twitter.com/TheCompassNews).

All are encouraged to actively participate in the Catholic community on these pages.

Confession

Designed to be used in the confessional, this app is the perfect aid for every penitent. With a personalized examination of conscience for each user, password protected profiles, and a step-by-step guide to the sacrament, this app invites Catholics to prayerfully prepare for and participate in the Rite of Penance. Individuals who have been away from the sacrament for some time will find Confession: A Roman Catholic App to be a useful and inviting tool. *Cost per person: \$1.99*

eVotions

The eVotions app is beautiful in its conception, design, and simplicity. It features reflections, novenas, prayers, & works by the featured Saints. It also contains beautiful photographs & images to aid the prayer. The most useful feature of this app, is the Novena that allows you to pray for the Saint's intercession for a particular request and you can set a daily reminder to help you remember.

MassApp

As the title suggests, this application is a look at the Catholic Mass and one which is highly engaging, attractive and compelling. The *MassExplained* app is ideal for class instruction and group study. The app is available through Apple's Volume Purchase Program (VPP) allowing your school, class, institution, parish or group to receive a **50% discount** when purchasing the app in quantities of 20 or more.

Visit the following website for more information: <http://www.MassExplainedApp.com>

iBreviary

Are you in a quiet place, finding yourself wanting to pray a rosary or a devotion like the Way of the Cross? The iBreviary offers all the major Catholic prayers and more! The iBreviary also offers the complete texts of the rites for the celebration of all the sacraments: the Anointing of the Sick, Viaticum, Marriage (including the readings), the funeral rites, Communion of the Sick, and many other rites useful for meditation, prayer and pastoral ministry. The iBreviary is your portable breviary. You can use it to pray with the full texts of the Liturgy of the Hours in just five languages. Simply launch the application and all the texts of the day will appear before you. The texts of the Liturgy of the Hours, are formatted just as they appear in the printed version. The iBreviary offers you the complete daily missal to follow the Mass or, if you're a priest, even to celebrate it.

iPieta

iPieta is a wonderful spiritual companion. This iPhone app puts so much at your finger tips including: the liturgical calendar, common prayers, papal & magisterial writings, writings of the Saints, and more!

Laudate (a Department of New Evangelization favourite)

Laudate includes many must have resources all in one place such as an interactive Rosary, Daily Readings, the Liturgy of the Hours, the Roman Missal changes, and the NAB and Douay-Rheims versions of the bible – all in a simple to navigate layout. Also included is a very handy and easy to use layout of the Catechism. But what makes this app shine is the huge selection of prayers – in both Latin and English. They are sorted into intuitive groups such as the “Marian Group” and “Mass Group” and you can even create your own folder of “My Prayers” to easily access your favorites. The font size and color scheme are customizable, and there are six language options. This app is free and is highly recommended

Magnificat

Presented in a day-by-day format, the Magnificat App includes: morning, evening, and night prayers inspired by the Liturgy of the Hours; readings and prayers of each daily Mass; daily meditations drawn from the best writings of the Church Fathers as well as recent spiritual masters; and essays on the lives of the saints from yesterday and today. The App is free for subscribers to the printed version of the USA edition. Otherwise, it is free from the day you install the App, until the end of the month, then buy each month for \$1.99. This App also exist in French and in Spanish.

The Word Among Us

The Word Among Us App brings this well known powerful tool for the faithful into the digital world! It features Daily Readings with Meditations, Reflections on other topics, as well as an “Order of the Mass” section which is basically like a Missal. The design is simple and beautiful, the reflections are helpful and thought provoking, and the app really delivers the Word to it’s users in a user-friendly way. *Cost per person \$1.99.*

APOSTOLATES/ORGANIZATIONS DEDICATED TO EVANGELIZATION

ChristLife

ChristLife’s mission is to equip Catholics for the essential work of evangelization so that others might come to know personally the love of God through Jesus Christ, in the Holy Spirit, becoming his followers and members of the Church. Their mission is to help others to discover, follow, and share Jesus Christ as members of the Catholic Church and to

equip dioceses' parishes, small faith communities, and young adults to evangelize. ChristLife offers training seminars, programs and small faith sharing resources for parishes. We are hopeful that we can bring a ChristLife seminar to the Diocese of Green Bay during the 2015 or 2016 year. They offer three small faith sharing resources to parishes to help in this efforts. They are called "Discovering Christ, Following Christ and Sharing Christ". Discovering Christ works well with Phase 1: Prayer and Holiness. Following Christ works well with Phase II: Formation in Discipleship and Sharing Christ corresponds to Phase III: Mission of Disciples on the Way.

See www.christlife.com for more information.

If your parish would like to be a host parish for any of the ChristLife programs please contact:

Julianne Stanz, Director of New Evangelization jstanz@gbdioc.org or (920) 272-8270 or
Father Jason Blahnik jblahnik@gbdioc.org or call (920) 233-5555.

The Evangelical Catholic

The mission of the Evangelical Catholic, in communion with the Catholic Church, labors to inspire effective and sustainable renewal to campus ministries, parishes and dioceses around the country. They strive to make the Church's mission of evangelization accessible, natural, and fruitful for every Catholic who wants to make a difference in the world for Christ. The Evangelical Catholic is well known for its efforts in campus ministry but has recently broadened its reach to work with Diocesan offices and parishes. St. Gabriel Parish in Neenah has been working with the Evangelical Catholic on an intensive evangelization process for the parishes. Pam Mullins from St. Gabriel Parish, Neenah has excellent insight on the Evangelical Catholic. Pam can be reached at pmullins@tcces.org

For more information visit www.evangelicalcatholic.org

"Evangelize All" Ministries

"Evangelize All Ministries promotes the New Evangelization first by answering the call for each of us to be evangelized and then to evangelize others. *Evangelize All* Ministries facilitates a personal encounter with Christ, promotes a living relationship with Christ, and challenges us to introduce Christ to others. This new ministry promotes the spread of the "God Is!" Process which seeks to promote the New Evangelization through a heart-felt re-presentation of the Good News of Salvation and Sacramental Renewal during a one day retreat held at the parish on a Saturday by parishioner for parishioners. This day of renewal is followed by ongoing adult faith formation and the opportunity to participate in small faith sharing communities. The *God Is!* Day of Renewal is open to anyone in the parish but is considered an expectation of the parents of sacramental candidates.

Visit www.evangelizeall.com for more information

Hearts Afire!

Hearts Afire: Parish-based Programs from the Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception was officially released on Divine Mercy Sunday, April 15, 2012. Since that time more than 35,000 people across the U.S. have gone through an aspect of the Hearts Afire Program which includes the very popular 33 days to Morning Glory, Consoling the Heart of Jesus and The One Thing is Three. They offer a fresh approach to small group, parish-based, faith renewal programs. It is designed to help us live the complete Catholic life of faith, charity, and the sacraments. It's designed to set our hearts on fire with love of God and neighbor and to inspire us to works of mercy in our families, parishes, and communities.

If you would like to bring Hearts Afire to your home or parish, please visit:
<http://www.allheartsafire.org>

CONVERSION RETREAT OPPORTUNITIES

There are a number of lay led and well established apostolates in our Diocese centered on providing participants with an encounter with Christ. Contact information is below for such groups.

Diocesan Charismatic Renewal Group

The DCRC (Diocesan Charismatic Renewal Center) was established in 1987 to meet the needs of the thirty prayer groups throughout the Diocese of Green Bay. It serves as a meeting place for prayer group leaders, a resource center for media relating to the Charismatic Renewal and the Catholic Church, and an information center for local, regional and national charismatic activities, speakers and topics

The Diocesan Charismatic Renewal Group desires to serve the needs of the charismatic prayer groups, those who would like a deeper relationship with the Lord and those who would like more information about charismatic renewal.

For more information visit <http://www.charismaticrenewal.org> or contact Judy Goolesby, the President of the Diocesan Charismatic Renewal Group at jgoalsbey@att.net

Koinonia

Koinonia is a Catholic retreat, (a weekend experience) and is an invitation to encounter Jesus while continuing life's journey. Koinonia strives to meet everyone where they are at and assist them on their spiritual journey. Koinonia brings the Paschal Mystery to life; where the dying and rising of Christ are experienced in a real and powerful way. The weekend consists of talks, discussions, reflections, sharing, prayer, and liturgical

celebrations. The experience is led by a team of lay people, clergy and religious, and is held in an atmosphere of love and acceptance. Koinonia brings each person into one community, one body gathered in the name of Jesus, who is the center of the weekend.

For more information visit <http://gbkoinonia.org> or contact Ann Hammes, President of Koinonia at grbhammes@sbcglobal.net

Cursillo

Cursillo seeks to uplift Catholics in their faith through deepening three actions of the Holy Spirit — piety, study and action. The Cursillo movement is world wide with centers in most countries. In 1957 the first Cursillo in the United States was held in Waco, TX, with a priest and two Spanish Air Force trainees as the key figures. In 1965, the first Cursillo took place in the Diocese of Green Bay and has been going ever since. Four Cursillos are held per year and the basic format of the Cursillo weekend has remained constant but as in all things, changes and updates have been made to the format of the retreat. There have been 200+ weekends held with over 7000+ Cursillistas meeting the challenge of Pope Pius XII to penetrate our environments and bring the world back to Christ.

For more information visit <http://www.cursillo.org/Greenbay/index.html> or contact the Spiritual Director of Cursillo -Father Dave Plier for more information. Contact information for the board of Cursillo can be found at <http://www.cursillo.org/Greenbay/secretariat.html>

Christ Renews His Parish

Christ Renews His Parish (CHRP), is a parish and prayer renewal process that began in Ohio in 1969 and has since spread to nearly 1,000 parishes in more than 34 states. It has been very popular in the Diocese of Green Bay and many parishes have hosted a CHRP (Christ Renews His Parish) retreat. The format of the weekend consists of a weekend retreat with talks, seminars, prayer experiences in the opportunity to experience Christ in a renewed way which takes place at the local parish.

For more information on CHRP, call Deb Wegner-Hohensee at the Diocese of Green Bay at (920)272-8286; or toll-free (in 920 and 715 area codes) at 1-877-500-3580, ext. 8286.

Christian Experience Weekend

Christian Experience Weekends began as an adaptation of Cursillo retreats. Candidates and team experience prayer in the Sacraments and Morning and Evening prayer. Reconciliation tends to be a major turning point on the weekend. CEW challenges the average Catholic, accustomed to simply coming to mass on Sunday, to come to a two day weekend event. While a lot of persuasion is used for the sign-up, once the weekend starts participants become captivated by the whirlwind speed of events, as well as the intensity of spiritual feelings found. While the weekend may seem by some to go by fast, more

than a few have commented that they spent months sorting out what the weekend of religious intensity started. Just like the room where the apostles experienced Pentecost in, many average parishioners, who have never had such days, consistently encounter the Holy Spirit. Spiritual Directors for this experience include Deacon Bob Beehner (920) 684-3718 and Deacon Dave Scheuer at dscheuer@bsagb.com

For more information visit <http://lakeshorecew.org/>

SPIRITUS

SPIRITUS is a ministry serving parishes and schools throughout the Diocese of Green Bay consisting of teams of 6-10 young adults who give 9-months of service igniting the faith of Catholic youth and young adults through retreats, spiritual programs and Bible studies and parish youth and young adult ministry. SPIRITUS gives dynamic retreats using praise music, dramas, challenge activities, witnesses and small & large group discussion and inspires Catholics in grades 3-12 and young adults to live their faith and grow closer to God. SPIRITUS energizes young Catholics and helps them grow as disciples of Jesus.

<http://spiritusonline.org>

PARISH-WIDE SMALL FAITH SHARING / ADULT FAITH FORMATION PROGRAMS:

'Oremus' Program

The Oremus study program teaches the essentials of an effective and fruitful prayer life. Over the course of eight weeks participants will discover how God speaks to them, even in the smallest encounters. Following the Tradition of the Catholic Church and the wisdom of the saints, participants will learn how to express themselves to God in prayer, and how to hear his voice. This program would be particularly suited to small faith sharing groups in order to introduce and deepen people's understanding of prayer.

If your parish would like to be a host parish for Oremus please contact Joseph Tremblay, Adult Faith Formation Coordinator jtremblay@gbdioc.org or call (920) 272-8313

Available through: Ascension Press

Website: www.ascensionpress.com/t/category/study-programs/catholic-prayer/oremus

'Meeting Christ in Prayer' Program

An eight-week, guided-prayer experience for small groups — is modeled after the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius. This prayer program teaches and reinforces specific prayer practices such as *Lectio Divina*, imaginative prayer, meditation, the Examen, and more. No prior experience with prayer groups is needed, just a desire to renew one's faith, enrich one's prayer life, or become more aware of God's presence in everyday life. Through 'Meeting Christ in Prayer', prayer group participants will meet Christ in a new, prayerful way while developing a profound sense of purpose in their own lives.

If your parish would like to be a host parish for "Meeting Christ in Prayer" please contact Michael Poradek, mporadek@gbdioc.org (920) 272-8294

Available through: *Loyola Press*

Website: www.loyolapress.com/meeting-christ-in-prayer.htm

Word on Fire: Priest, Prophet, King

Priest, Prophet and King is the new series by Fr. Robert Barron through Word on Fire Media. The anticipated release date will be September 2014. A synopsis of the program follows. The better we understand Jesus, the better we understand ourselves. But who was Jesus, this itinerant preacher whom many called the Messiah? In Priest, Prophet, King, you'll discover Jesus as the Anointed One — the ultimate priest, prophet, and king foreshadowed throughout the Hebrew Scriptures. Using biblical insights and engaging stories, Father Barron affirms that we see Jesus most clearly through the lens of the Old Testament. This deeply biblical program, filmed in high-definition video, features an accompanying study guide by notable Catholic writer and apologist, Carl Olson, written under Fr. Barron's direction.

<http://priestprophetking.com/>

If your parish would like to be a host parish for Priest Prophet and King please contact Joseph Tremblay, Adult Faith Formation Coordinator jtremblay@gbdioc.org or call (920) 272-8313.

EVENTS LIST

Diocesan Marian Eucharistic Conference: October 1-4, 2014 (Green Bay, WI)

Theme: *Mary, Model of Faith and Fidelity*

Open to: *All*

Location: *KI Convention Center, Green Bay*

Speakers include: *Bishop Ricken, Dr. Scott Hahn, Fr Michael Gaitley and Mother Adela Galindo.*

For more information: <http://www.gbdioc.org/marian-eucharistic-conference.html>

Convocation: October 30, 2014 (Green Bay, WI)

Theme: *"Called to Be Holy, Fully Engaged, Fully Alive"*

Open to: *All*

Location: *KI Convention Center, Green Bay*

For more information: <http://www.gbdioc.org/convocation>

Workshops of particular interest centered on prayer include:

Where the Parish Leader's Relationship is.....So too is the Relationship of the Followers - Mary Ann Otto, Stewardship and Special Projects Director for the Diocese of Green Bay

"Do We Truly Pray?" Pope Francis asks that question of us and states that on a personal level "without an abiding relationship with God it is difficult to live an authentic and consistent Christian Life." This workshop will help to assist us in evaluating our own relationship with Jesus as well as discuss the crucial importance of parish leadership modeling and investing time in prayer as a team, committee, etc. Personal and communal Intimacy with God, moves us from our will to God's will and that is where all hope and promise for our Church lives.

Disciples on the Way: Prayer at the Center of the New Evangelization - Bishop Ricken

In the call to holiness, "we realize that a great love has been offered, a good word has been spoken to us, and that when we welcome that word, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit transforms us, lights up our way to the future and enables us joyfully to advance along that way on wings of hope" (Pope Francis, *Lumen Fidei*). Weaving insight from his vision for the new evangelization, "*Disciples on the Way*," Bishop Ricken will outline the road ahead for each of us for the next six years.

Girlfriends in God: December 4, 2014 (open to women of all ages)

Theme: *Advent by Candlelight*

Location: *Location: St. Matthew Parish, Green Bay*

Girlfriends in God gathers together women of all ages from across the Diocese of Green Bay and pampers them physically and spiritually, encouraging them to share their own faith journeys and listen to the experience and wisdom gained from other women's

experiences of faith. The Girlfriends in God events combine faith, good food and laughter giving busy women of all ages the opportunity to find their common ground as Girlfriends in God. Events usually take the format of a half day or evening of reflection leaving women motivated and re-energized to continue deepening their faith journey with Christ and with their local parish community.

For more information on Girlfriends in God and upcoming events please visit:

<http://www.gbdioc.org/girlfriends-in-god.html>

Encounter *(for young adults)*

Encounter are evenings of Eucharistic Adoration, Praise & Worship Music, Reconciliation, and fellowship for young adults (18-39). These evenings are a response to Pope Francis' invitation: "I invite all Christians, everywhere, at this very moment, to a renewed personal **encounter** with Jesus Christ, or at least an openness to letting him encounter them." The initiative has been spearheaded by young adults in the diocese and has been very well attended.

For information on your parish hosting an ENCOUNTER or a young adult evening, please contact Phil Lawson, Young Adult Ministry Discipleship and Formation Coordinator for the Diocese of Green Bay (920) 272-8304 or plawson@gbdioc.org

For information on Encounter visit: www.encountergb.com

Young Adult Evening at the Shrine

An annual July Saturday evening event for young adults at the Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help which features prayer, adoration, confession, music, a reflection, fellowship and refreshments. Watch the Diocese of Green Bay's Young Adult website for updates:

<http://www.gbdioc.org/newevangelization/offices-a-programs/young-adult-ministry.html>

Adult Faith Formation Classes

The adult faith formation office of the Department of New Evangelization coordinates a number of formation opportunities for adults at various parish locations throughout the Diocese. In response to Disciples on the Way, the office of adult faith formation will be offering a number of classes centered on prayer in 2014 and 2015. In collaboration with the Monks from Holy Resurrection Monastery three specific programs on prayer will be offered- one on "Lectio Divina" (the ancient art of reading the Scriptures), one on the "Jesus Prayer" and one class on "Praying with Icons". These programs will be held at various locations throughout the Diocese. For details on upcoming classes and events please visit: <http://www.gbdioc.org/newevangelization/offices-a-programs/adult-faith-formation/aff-classes-events.html>

Department of Education Certification Classes

The Department of Education of the Diocese of Green Bay offers various courses for basic certification and also for ongoing formation. They offer classes on prayer and spirituality at various locations throughout the Diocese. For more information please visit:

<http://www.gbdioc.org/fcc-catechetical-certification.html>

Lay Ministry Formation Classes

The Department of Lay Ministry of the Diocese of Green Bay offers courses in liturgy and prayer for professional lay ministers for credit but also offers them to non professionals who wish to take the class for audit purposes only. For details on the Emmaus Program and ongoing opportunities please visit:

<http://www.gbdioc.org/ministry-formation-portal/lay-ministry/emmaus-program.html>

RETREAT HOUSES/PLACES OF PRAYER

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

What is spiritual direction? Spiritual direction is first and foremost a way for you to grow closer to God. Since God communicates with each person uniquely it often helps to have another person to speak with about how we experience God in our lives. Spiritual direction provides an opportunity to notice, reflect, discern and discover where God is present in the life of each person. The subject matter of spiritual direction is whatever is happening in the life of the person and often includes exploring one's daily life, one's work and prayer and relationships. The spiritual director/companion remains present to the directee through deep listening, evocative questions, support, and creating a safe environment where one can openly and prayerfully explore where God's spirit is leading. Finding a spiritual director that you are comfortable with is a critical part of the discernment process. In the Diocese of Green Bay, there are many avenues for spiritual direction — many of our retreat houses, religious communities and parishes have spiritual directors who can work with you. Here are some helpful tips to helping you find a spiritual director:

1. Speak to your pastor or the leadership at your parish about finding a spiritual director. If you have any questions they will often be able to guide and support you. They may be a spiritual director themselves or put you in touch with someone that would be appropriate for you.
2. Call the retreat centers in your locality and enquire about spiritual direction. Most of our retreat centers have spiritual directors on site.

3. Consider also our religious communities who are a wealth of information on this subject and have often trained spiritual directors who will accept directees.

4. Call Julianne Stanz in the Department of New Evangelization who would be happy to help you find a spiritual director in your area. Julianne can be reached at (920) 272-8270 or email jstanz@qbdioec.org.

The following retreat centers will be hosting programs and events centered on prayer throughout the year and have trained spiritual directors available.

Camp Tekakwitha *(for youth)*

Camp Tekakwitha began as the Catholic Girls Camp in 1926. Over the past 85-plus years, camp has seen many changes including new buildings, a move to a co-ed environment, name changes and the addition of year-round camps and retreats — to name just a few. What has not changed is camp's commitment to helping youth discover their innate gifts and helping them grow their spirituality in an environment of faith, friends and fun. Each day begins and ends with prayer. Campers experience great praise and worship music, living Stations of the Cross and Mass. There are opportunities during the week for Adoration and the Rosary. Faith is also woven into each activity we plan with school and parish groups. Kids of all faiths are welcome at Camp Tekakwitha.

<http://www.camptekakwitha.org>

Catholic Youth Expeditions

Catholic Youth Expedition is a Catholic apostolate ministering to high school students and young adults through prayer, proclamation of the Gospel and outdoor adventure. CYE provides life changing opportunities for youth and young adults to encounter Jesus through prayer, fellowship and a love of the outdoors. Since that time, Catholic Youth Expeditions has reached out to thousands young adults and high school students throughout the Diocese and beyond.

www.cyexpeditions.org

The Bridge Between

The mission of The Bridge-Between Retreat Center is to provide a contemplative bridge to deepen relationships with self, God, neighbor and creation. They are rooted in Dominican spirituality. Dominicans are an Order of Preachers within the Catholic Church whose mission is "to preach the gospel to all people, believers and unbelievers, learned and unlearned." They invite guests of all faith traditions to pray, to share simple meals, to reflect, and to enjoy a holistic lifestyle. All are welcomed at this turn-of-the-century homestead in Denmark, rural Brown County.

<http://www.bridge-between.com/>

Holy Resurrection Monastery

Holy Resurrection Monastery is a small community of Eastern Catholic monks under the jurisdiction of the Romanian Greek Catholic Eparchy of Canton, OH. The abbot is Rt. Rev. Archimandrite Nicholas (Zachariadis). They were founded in 1995. In 2011 the Monks moved from California to a monastery in the village of Saint Nazianz, Wisconsin (the town is named after one of the greatest Eastern saints, St. Gregory the Theologian, known in the West as St. Gregory Nazianzen). In this place of peace and serenity the Monks strive to live the monastic life of prayer, work and hospitality while contributing to the spiritual lives of visitors whether Eastern or Western Christians. They offer many opportunities for retreats, spiritual direction and events centered on prayer.

<http://hrmonline.org/>

The Jesuit Retreat Center in Oshkosh

Jesuit Retreat House, Oshkosh, Wisconsin, fosters Spiritual enrichment rooted in the Gospels, the Catholic tradition and the spirituality of St. Ignatius of Loyola. Our ministry is dedicated to creating a rich variety of retreat experiences and providing an atmosphere of quiet, peace and prayer in which men and women of all faiths are encouraged to discover and respond generously to God's personal invitation to wholeness and holiness. The Jesuit Retreat House has two types of silent retreats; preached and directed. Preached retreats include weekend retreats, 12-Step retreats, couples' retreats, a women's Advent retreat, and a men's holy week retreat. Directed retreats take place between May and September.

<http://www.jesuitretreathouse.org>

The Norbertine Center for Spirituality

Located within St. Norbert Abbey, the Center is a place of refuge for those who are weary, a place of wisdom for those who are seeking, a place of renewal for those who are over-burdened, and a place of safety for those who are questioning. A wide variety of inspiring presentations and retreats are offered throughout the year. For those looking for a more personal experience, spiritual direction is available, along with private retreats. If you are simply looking for a place to reflect and pray, tranquil prayer spaces are available.

Religious Communities in the Diocese of Green Bay

The Diocese of Green Bay is blessed to have many religious communities in the Diocese including contemplative orders and active or apostolic orders. As part of their charism and spiritual tradition, many of these communities spent much time in prayer and devotion. Our religious communities regularly host programs and events that are open to the public and spiritual direction is often available. These communities are a wealth of information about the spiritual treasures of the Catholic Church!

For more information please visit: <http://www.gbdioc.org/vocations/religious-life.html>

Perpetual Adoration Chapels

A list of Perpetual Adoration Chapels can be found on the Diocese of Green Bay's Vocation page. <http://www.gbdioc.org/vocations/promoting-vocations/adoration-for-vocations.html>

Our Lady of Good Help, Champion Wisconsin.

Known as "The Chapel" by the local inhabitants, the Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help is built directly over the site where Mary "The Queen of Heaven" appeared to Adele Brise, a young Belgian immigrant woman, in October of 1859, one year after the Marian apparitions occurred at Lourdes. The Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help hosts a number of programs, events and opportunities centered on prayer year round.

<http://shrineofourladyofgoodhelp.com>

The National Shrine of St. Joseph located at St. Norbert Abbey in De Pere

The National Shrine of St. Joseph is the headquarters of the Archconfraternity of St. Joseph and home to the Crowned Statue of Joseph and the Child Jesus. It was recognized by Pope Leo XIII as the National Shrine of Saint Joseph in 1892. The shrine is open to the public, and this holy setting provides a serene atmosphere for prayer and contemplation. A public Holy Hour with Eucharistic Adoration and Perpetual Novena to St. Joseph is held at the Shrine every Wednesday at 3:15 p.m. Programs for use during the novena, including the litany of Saint Joseph, are available on site. The Annual Solemn Novena to St. Joseph is held March 11-19 (dates may change if Holy Week falls during this time)

For more information please visit <http://www.shrineofsaintjoseph.org> or contact St. Norbert Abbey at (920) 337-4300.

Schoenstatt Shrine

The Schoenstatt Wayside Shrine, Refuge of Sinners, located in Freedom, WI, provides a place of pilgrimage and prayer. Mass and regular opportunities for prayer and study are offered at the Shrine. Address: N4664 Old Ireland Way, Kaukauna, WI 54130.

For more information, visit the website: <http://refugeofsinners.org>

ENDNOTES

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² Francis, *Evangelii Gaudium*, Apostolic exhortation on the proclamation of the gospel in today's world, November 24, 2013, no. 33, accessed May 5, 2014, http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/francesco/apost_exhortations/documents/papa-francesco_esortazione-ap_20131124_evangelii-gaudium_en.html. Henceforth known as EG.

³ Francis, "Address to the Plenary Assembly of the Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelization," October 14, 2013, accessed May 5, 2014, http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/francesco/speeches/2013/october/documents/papa-francesco_20131014_plenaria-consiglio-nuova-evangelizzazione_en.html

⁴ EG, no. 27.

⁵ EG, no. 28

⁶ EG, no. 264.

⁷ John Paul II, *Novo Millennio Ineunte*, (Liberia Editrice Vaticana, 2000) , no. 37

⁸ Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2nd ed., no. 1324.

⁹ United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, "National Directory for Catechesis," (Washington, D.C.: 2005).

¹⁰ EG, no. 3,

¹¹ United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Committee on Catechesis and Evangelization, "Disciples Called to Witness," (Washington DC: January 2012).

¹² Weddell, Sherry "Forming Intentional Disciples", (Huntington: Our Sunday Visitor, 2012), pg. 36.

¹³ Matthew Kelly, "The Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic," (Beacon Publishing, 2012).

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2014 - 2020

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