



SDNB

Salina Diocesan News Bulletin <http://salinadiocese.org/home/sdnb>

Volume 411

April 2015

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

ORDINATION OF TRANSITIONAL DEACON for Luke Thielen is on Saturday, April 11, 2015. Please plan to concelebrate this special liturgy if you are able at the Cathedral with a meal following in the Hall of Bishops.

SPRING GATHERING OF PRIESTS: All priests should have received a “**save the date**” email invitation to attend an informal social gathering in my home on April 20, 2015. More specific information w/RSVP’s will be forthcoming.

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS STATE CONVENTION is May 1-3, 2015 in Topeka.

POPE FRANCIS DESIGNATED THIS 2015 YEAR AS “*The Year of Consecrated Life*”, to celebrate and recognize all Consecrated Religious (male and female) serving in the Diocese of Salina. An **APPRECIATION MASS** will be held on Wednesday, May 6, 2015, 11 a.m. at the Cathedral. A luncheon will follow in the Cathedral’s Hall of Bishops’. Vocatio Club of Salina will assist with this celebration. You may have noticed that each issue of *The Register* is featuring a different Consecrated Religious in the diocese this year and now on behalf of the diocese this is our way to show our appreciation for your dedication and service. **All priests in the diocese are invited to concelebrate this special recognition Mass with Bishop Weisenburger and all consecrated religious are invited to the Mass and luncheon following.** Please call Clara ([785-827-8746](tel:785-827-8746) – Ext. 34) or email chancery2@salinadiocese.org if you plan to concelebrate Mass and/or attend the luncheon by Wednesday, April 29th.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION PROCEDURES: My schedule is heavily booked with upcoming Confirmations these next few months. This is just a helpful reminder.

- The completed Confirmation Liturgy Guide approved by the pastor, along with the letters from the candidates should be mailed to my office at least seven days prior to the date scheduled for Confirmation. *(See Section VI-7B of the Diocesan Handbook) or on the Diocesan Web site under the Bishop’s Section, you will find the Confirmation Schedule and the Confirmation Liturgy Guide which is a fillable form for your convenience.)*
- Please do not enclose each Confirmandi letter in an individual sealed envelope, but clip the entire group together with the Liturgy Form.
- If several parish communities are together for a single celebration, please provide the records of each parish for my review.
- It would be most helpful if each Confirmandi had a simple name tag with just their Confirmation name easily recognized. This is not a requirement, but most helpful to me.

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP (Cont.)

THE CLERGY HEALTH AND RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION MEMBERS and Bishop Weisenburger invite all priests 65 and older to a luncheon to discuss ideas and retirement concerns on one of the below dates:

Tuesday, May 19, 2015 at Sacred Heart Cathedral Parish Hall

or

Wednesday, May 20, 2015 at the Capuchin Center for Spirituality, in Victoria.

Invitations with RSVP Information will be emailed later this month to all with email and hard copies mailed to those w/out email.

ANNUAL SEMINARIAN POT LUCK will be hosted by the Vocatio Club of Salina on Friday, May 29, 2015. More information will follow.

ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD is set for Saturday, May 30, 2015, 10 a.m. at Sacred Heart Cathedral at the Cathedral. I trust that you will make every effort to attend. Please keep all our seminarians in your prayers.

GUIDELINES FOR RECTORIES: Please see enclosed a copy of the Guidelines for Rectories. The policy was discussed and considered at the Council of Priests on Tuesday, February 24th. The policy is effective immediately. This policy should be placed in your Diocesan Policy Handbook in Section X. - Priests/Deacons as "S." and listed as p. 120.

GUIDELINES FOR EXTRAORDINARY FUND RAISING WITHIN PARISHES: Please see enclosed a copy of the Guidelines For Extraordinary Fund Raising Within Parishes. The policy was discussed and considered at the Council of Priests on Tuesday, February 24, 2015. The policy is effective immediately. This policy should be placed in your Diocesan Policy Handbook in Section X. - Priests/Deacons as "T." and listed as p. 121.

OFFICE OF VICAR GENERAL

CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL is scheduled for the weekend of April 25-26. This is a very important collection for our own diocese and for other home mission dioceses throughout the country. Our diocese (one of ninety Mission Dioceses) benefits significantly from grants which are funded through the Catholic Home Missions Appeal. Please encourage generous support for the Catholic Home Missions collection and continue to pray for our United States mission parishes. This appeal gives Catholics in each of our parishes an opportunity to offer desperately needed help to the mission Church here at home. Watch *The Register* for more information or visit their web site www.usccb.org/hm. or www.usccb.org/nationalcollections (search "home missions").

TRIBUNAL/JUDICIAL VICAR

The new Narrative Form is available from the Tribunal office in a Word Document. E-mail Sister Carolyn @ carolyn.juenemann@salinadiocese.org. The updated Handbook pages will be sent out next month.

QUESTION REGARDING PLACE OF MARRIAGE: *When a engaged couple wants to travel to a historical Catholic church in another town or city for their wedding, does the pastor of the historical church have an obligation to witness their marriage? (In this scenario, the couple does not reside in the area or have any*

TRIBUNAL/JUDICIAL VICAR (Cont.)

connection to the historic church.) According to canon law, a pastor is obligated to celebrate marriage for his parishioners only. In other words, the law discourages a couple from "church shopping." The value being promoted by this provision of the law is that a couple should get married in the parish where they are residing and worshipping. The actual laws states that "marriages are to be celebrated in the parish in which either of the contracting parties has a domicile or quasi-domicile or a month's residence" (canon 1115).

The law refers to "domicile" of the parties which means they have lived in a location for at least 5 years, or having moved there, intend on staying there indefinitely. The term "quasi-domicile" refers to living in a place for at least three months. College students have both a domicile (their hometown) and a quasi-domicile (the place they are going to school and residing for over 3 months). The final provision in the law provides another possibility, that a person has resided within the parish boundaries for a certain period of time, "one-month residence." If one or both of the parties has a established a domicile, quasi-domicile or lived within the parish boundaries for one month, the pastor is obligated to attend to their pastoral needs which includes marriage.

A final note about who is a parishioner and who is not. Every Catholic in the world belongs to the parish in which he or she resides. Even though a catholic may not register in a parish as a member ('registration' is a very Protestant concept), if they live within the boundaries of the parish, they are considered part of that parish. The law provides a structure in which every Catholic belongs to the parish by virtue of residence. And with that, parishioners have the right to insist on spiritual care from their territorial pastor (canon 518). Fr. Barry Brinkman JCL

OFFICE OF SAFETY AND SECURITY

We appreciate the cooperation received from you in getting the VIRTUS training seminar and the ESR background checks completed for those who were not in compliance. If there are any remaining employees or volunteers whose last background check was in 2009, we ask that you request them to get those updated immediately as they are overdue. We have an onsite audit this year scheduled after June 30th.

For those whose last background check was in 2010, they will be asked to do the recheck in late summer or early fall after it is determined that they will continue ministering with minors. Thus, even if their recheck is due the first six (6) months of this current year 2015, we ask that you wait until this summer or early fall to have them complete both the VIRTUS seminar and the ESR background check. If someone is not returning, ask Sister Carolyn to remove them from your parish/school list.

If someone whose last background check was 2010 (which means it needs to be rechecked in 2015) has already completed the VIRTUS seminar and has the certificate from VIRTUS, they do not need to repeat the VIRTUS seminar again. However, in order to complete the ESR background check without repeating the VIRTUS seminar, the e-mail address for each person needs to be sent to Sister Carolyn Juenemann (carolyn.juenemann@salinadiocese.org). You may only access ESR through an e-mail alert that will then be sent directly to each person from ESR with the necessary instructions on how to complete the background check.

Each parish coordinator will receive an EXCEL list of the parish staff/volunteers in early August so the parish coordinator/pastor will know everyone's conformity status. However, those can be requested from Sister Carolyn at anytime. Any new staff/volunteer needs to complete VIRTUS and ESR before being accepted into ministry with minors.

The Safety Office is closed on Fridays, but feel free to call Sister Carolyn Monday thru Thursday if you have questions. She may be reached at 785.827.8746.

Thank you again for your cooperation!

OFFICE OF VOCATIONS

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- April 10: 8:30 p.m. Holy Hour for Deacon elect Luke Thielen at Sacred Heart Cathedral.
- April 11: 10:00 a.m. Ordination of Mr. Luke Thielen to the diaconate.
- May 5 and May 6: 5th/6th grade vocation days in Hays and Abilene.
- May 28: Diocesan Seminarian Recognition Dinner
- May 29: Potluck Dinner in honor of those to be ordained – hosted by Vocatio of Salina
- May 30: 10:00 p.m. Priestly Ordination of Deacons Kyle Berens and Andrew Rockers
- August 8: Men’s Conference (Seminarians will attend)
- August 10-13: Seminarian End of Summer Gathering

Diaconate Ordination

It would be great to have many of you join us at the Cathedral for this wonderful event.

Priestly Ordination

It would be great to have all of you join us at the Cathedral for this wonderful event.

Seminary Visits for Potential Seminarians

In last month’s SDNB we announced that we would be taking a group to the Encounter with God’s Call weekend in April. This, in fact, will not be taking place, however I am still willing to find other days or times to visit the seminary with any prospective seminarian. If you have someone that you know of who is contemplating this call and is at least a senior in High School, have them get in touch with me about the opportunity. – Fr. Gale

5/6th Grade Vocation Days

The Vocation’s team will once again be holding the “Vocation Days” for 6th grade students of our Catholic Schools, or 5th graders if your school does not have a 6th grade. Please put this in your calendar and let Fr. Gale know how many students and adults you will be bringing. Fr.gale@shcathedral.com I apologize to those schools who have a scheduling conflict, but these dates seem to work best for us on the vocation’s team. We will be in Hays on the 5th and in Abilene on the 6th.

Intercessions for Vocations

For those parishes who have been using the intercessions for vocations, they can be found at the following website: http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/vocations/voc_intercessions.aspx

SEMINARIAN RECOGNITION DINNER

Mark your calendars for the Diocesan Seminarian Recognition Dinner on Thursday, May 28, 2015. The event will be held at St. Mary Queen of the Universe Parish and will begin with Evening Prayer followed by a catered meal. This event will recognize those men currently discerning God’s call to Priestly vocations. Information will be mailed out in April. This is a great event to bring parishioners to or perhaps host a table of men who have shown interest in seminary. Contact Syndi Larez with any questions

OFFICE OF STEWARDSHIP

12 SCHOLARSHIPS FOR CONFERENCE: Region IX Stewardship Conference will be Friday, May 1, 2015. The conference will be from 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. in Columbia, MO. This is a great opportunity for Priests, committees and parishioners to attend. Participants will spend the day learning helpful techniques to begin and/or enhance their current stewardship efforts. A brochure is enclosed. 12 scholarships for registration fees will be awarded from the Office of Stewardship. Call Syndi Larez for information.

OFFICE OF DEVELOPMENT

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY ANNUAL APPEAL: The Catholic Community Annual Appeal, Lift Up Your Hearts, is in full swing. Those who sit in the pews, look to you for your leadership. Please continue to promote this appeal. There are so many important ministries that depend on this appeal. If you have any questions or need assistance conducting this appeal, please contact Syndi Larez in the Office of Development. She can be reached at syndi.larez@salinadiocese.org The CCAA weekly report will be emailed to Pastors/PLCs on Tuesday afternoons. This will allow you to update your bulletins and continue to communicate with your parishioners. If you need totals at any other time, please contact Lois at 785-827-8746.

SEMINARIAN RECOGNITION DINNER: Mark your calendars and invite your parishioners to attend the Diocesan Seminarian Recognition Dinner on Thursday, May 28, 2015. The event will be held at St. Mary Queen of the Universe Parish and will begin with Evening Prayer followed by a catered meal. This event will recognize those men currently discerning God's call to Priestly vocations. This is a great event to bring parishioners to or perhaps host a table of men who have shown interest in seminary. Contact Syndi Larez with any questions.

YESTERDAY, TODAY and FOREVER: The Capital Campaign is in what should be for most the last year of redemption. The last year of redemption is crucial to the success of the Campaign. We still have Endowments that have not been fully funded. Please continue to share with your parishioners how important this year is to the campaign. Any questions, including what pledge balances are, can be directed to Syndi Larez in the Development office.

OFFICE OF NEW EVANGELIZATION

RECONCILIATION IN AND THROUGH THE FAMILY: During 2015, the evangelization efforts in the diocese of Salina are focused around evangelization in and through the family. The month of April's theme is New Life that comes through mercy in and through the family. An activity suggestion for parish Evangelization and/or Family Life commissions to consider:

A Family Examination of Conscience (originally distributed last month, but also attached this month) could be offered to parishioners from a different perspective than that of identifying sinfulness. Using a reflection guide, A Family Examination of Conscience can become an aid to recognize the new life that comes from an encounter with the Risen Christ in the family. See the attachments to this month's SDNB.

Note: copies of A Family Examination of Conscience could be available at church entrances and/or on the parish website. The introduction (above) could be included in the parish bulletin or attached to the Family Examination of Conscience. A bulletin announcement could read:

Evangelization in and through the Family: One of the places we encounter the life-changing love of Christ is in our families. Use A Family Examination of Conscience and the attached reflection guide to help recognize this encounter with the Risen Christ and to be touched by His power.

Pick up your copy at _____.

FAITH SHARING AT MEETINGS: Please also find enclosed the seventh installment of "Tools to facilitate brief faith-sharing at a parish meeting in keeping with the theme of the 2014-15 catechetical year, Teaching about God's Gift of Forgiveness." This information is provided to you for possible use at meetings. Please make use of it as you see fit.

OFFICE OF CONTINUING ED

ANNUAL RETREAT: June 15-18, 2015. Our days will begin on Monday with Registration beginning at 2:30 and the Opening Conference at 4:00.

Our Retreat Director is Fr. Ron Witherup. Very Rev. Ronald D. Witherup, S.S., is superior general of the Society of St. Sulpice, known as the Sulpicians, an order of diocesan priests dedicated to initial and ongoing formation of priests. Father Witherup previously served 11 years as provincial of the Sulpicians U.S. Province. A former academic dean and professor of sacred scripture at St. Patrick Seminary in Menlo Park, Calif., he holds a doctorate in biblical studies from Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, Va. He is a frequent retreat master for priests and deacons, and he often lectures on biblical and theological topics.

OCTOBER DAY OF RENEWAL: will be October 15 in Russell. The focus will be on the family. Our speaker is Most Reverend Robert J. Carlson, Archbishop of St. Louis.

JANUARY RENEWAL DAYS: will be January 25-28, 2016.

OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR MEETINGS: We will have our spring Coordinator Meetings in April. The meetings will be held at the following parishes:

- April 13, 2015, Sacred Heart Church, Colby – Knights of Columbus Room -1:00 pm – 3:30 pm
- April 14, 2015, Sacred Heart Meeting Room, Plainville – 9 am – 11:30 am
- April 16, 2015, Seven Dolors, Manhattan- Main Conference Room – 9 am – 11:30 am
- April 16, 2015, Chancery Conference Room, Salina – 7 pm – 9:30 pm

TOTUS TUUS: We have 24 parishes signed up for TOTUS TUUS this summer. The topics will be Virtues and the Sorrowful Mysteries. Enclosed is a schedule for this summer's program. We will have 4 teams traveling to our parishes.

OFFICE OF YOUTH MINISTRY

JUNIOR CYO CAMP: Enclosed are the information and registration forms for our Junior CYO Camp. One change this year is that the CAMP WILL BE ONLY FOR THE 6th, 7th, 8th graders. The 9th graders will not be able to attend. We are limited in space at Rock Springs and the 9th graders will be able to go to the Convention, Prayer & Action and NCYC. Please encourage your youth to register as soon as possible since this camp gets filled up really fast. If you have any questions please give me a call.

PRAYER AND ACTION: The two locations for Prayer and Action this summer will be in Stockton (June) and Ellsworth (July). We now have online registration. The \$60.00 per person non-refundable fee for Prayer and Action has to be sent into the Office to confirm the online pre-registration. During our College Week we will have the Diocese of Dodge City's Core team and the Core Team from Savannah, Georgia present. There will also be a group of college students from the University of Indiana attend the college week. This is our 10th year of providing the diocese's PRAYER AND ACTION. Thank you for your support.

NCYC: The first payment for NCYC was due on February 27th. The next payment will be due on June 16th. We still need to receive the first payment from the following parishes: Beardsley, Beloit, Clyde, Herndon, Hoxie, Manhattan-St. Thomas More, Manhattan-Seven Dolors, New Almelo, Park, Plainville, Salina-Tri-Parish, Sharon Springs, and Washington.

If there are any priests or seminarians that are planning on going to NCYC please let me know as soon as possible. The fee for NCYC is \$565.00 which includes bus, registration, hotel and diocesan t-shirt.

OFFICE OF FAMILY LIFE

SINGLE PARENT NETWORKER: Please distribute the enclosed Single Parent Networker to your Family Life Coordinator.

2015 MEN'S CONFERENCE FLYER: Included in this mailing is the 2015 Salina Diocese Men's Conference flyer. On line registration is now available at www.salinadiocese.org/family-life. Please help us advertise this event by including it in your bulletins, posting it to bulletin boards, etc.

ENGAGED ENCOUNTER DATES FOR 2015

- Apr. 17-19, 2015-Capuchin Center for Spiritual Life-Victoria
- June 5-7, 2015-Capuchin Center for Spiritual Life-Victoria
- November 6-8, 2015- Capuchin Center for Spiritual Life-Victoria

GOD'S PLAN FOR A JOY FILLED MARRIAGE SEMINAR DATES FOR 2014-2015

- Apr. 18, 2015- Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church-Concordia
- May 2, 2015-Immaculate Heart of Mary, Hays

BULLETIN INSERTS OR HANDOUTS: Celebrate The Easter Season At Home is enclosed.

OFFICE OF RESPECT LIFE

The Kansas State Legislature has begun work on SB 95 the Kansas unborn child protection from dismemberment abortion act! If this bill becomes law it will outlaw Dilation and Evacuation (D & E) Abortions. This type of abortion tears apart a fetus limb by limb in the womb while the fetus is still alive. To learn more about this bill visit www.lifenews.com and search Kansas Dismemberment Abortion Act.

An all-day pro-life workshop is planned for Saturday, April 18, 2015 at Savior Pastoral Center in the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas from 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM. All are invited to attend. The primary objective of this workshop is to inspire & equip parishes with the tools & ideas to: “activate a great campaign in support of life” (Evangelium Vitae). The keynote speaker will be Archbishop Naumann! Discover what you can do to help reverse the moral decay that exists in our society. Event details, including agenda and registration may be found at www.ProlifeKC.com.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES

PREGNANCY MAINTENANCE INITIATIVE: Catholic Charities recently updated the brochure for its Pregnancy Maintenance Initiative (PMI) program and has enclosed a sample brochure for each of you with this SDNB.

If you know a pregnant woman or an adoptive couple needing our services, please refer them to a PMI case manager in one of our offices:

Salina - Peggy Crippen at [785-825-0208](tel:785-825-0208) or pcrippen@ccnks.org

Hays – Laura Dunn at [785-625-2644](tel:785-625-2644) or ldunn@ccnks.org

Manhattan – Jessica Palen at [785-323-0644](tel:785-323-0644) jpalen@ccnks.org

To request additional brochures or a presentation on one of Catholic Charities services, please contact Eric Frank, Director of Development, at [785-825-0208](tel:785-825-0208) or efrank@ccnks.org

SAVE THE DATE:

Catholic Charities Annual Fundraiser

Dinner and Auction, **July 12, 2015**, Salina Ambassador Hotel and Conference Center

MISCELLANEOUS

Address update for St. John Vianney Theological Seminary: 1300 **South** Steele St., Denver, CO 80210

Address update for Fr. August Moeder: Gove County Long Term Care, 520 W. 5th Street, Quinter, KS 67752

Please make sure you have the correct e-mail address for Fr. George Chalbhagam, C.M.I.:

chalbhagamcmi@yahoo.co.in

Contact information for Fr. James Soosainathan:

Cell phone number: [785-201-7812](tel:785-201-7812)

Personal e-mail: salinajames1980@gmail.com

May 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
					1 Region IX Stewardship Conf. K of C State Convention	2 God's Plan for a Joy Filled Marriage Hays K of C State Convention	
3 K of C State Convention	4	5 Vocation Day-Hays <i>Cinco de Mayo</i>	6 Vocation Day- Abilene Consecrated Religious Appreciation Mass and luncheon 11:00 HOB Hispanic Ministry Mtg. 3PM Chancery	7	8	9	
10 <i>Mother's Day</i>	11	12 Priests Council Viictoria	13	14 Ascension Thursday	15 St. Isidore's Day Celebration Hill City	16	
17	18	19 Clergy Health and Retirement Luncheon Cathedral Curia Meeting 1:30 PM Chancery	20 Clergy Health and Retirement Luncheon Victoria	21 Kansas Catholic Conference Topeka	22	23 Jr. CYO Camp	
24 Fr. Dan Scheetz 50 th ann. 4 pm Russell CYO Camp	Fr.Baxa 25 th ann. 3 pm Abilene CYO Camp Totus Tuus (May 31-June 5 th) P&A (May 31-June 5 th) College and young adult week 31	25 Jr. CYO Camp <i>Memorial Day</i>	26 Jr. CYO Camp	27 Totus Tuus Training	28 Seminarian Recognition Dinner St. Mary's Salina Finance Council Totus Tuus Training	29 Seminarian Potluck Totus Tuus Training	30 Ordination to the Priesthood 10:00 Cathedral

Policy Handbook

Diocese of Salina
103 N. Ninth St., PO Box 980
Salina, KS 67402-0980
Tel: 785-827-8746 FAX: 785-827-6133

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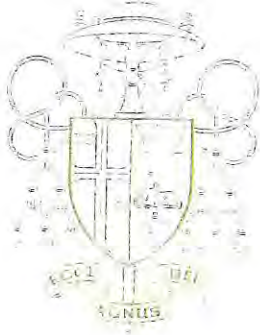
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Diocese of Salina

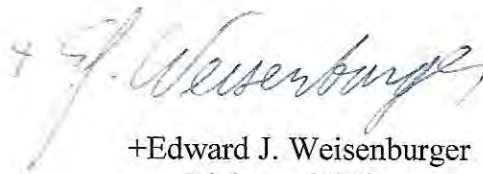
103 N. Ninth
P.O. Box 980
Salina, Kansas 67402-0980

Diocese of Salina

Guidelines For Rectories

1. Use of the parish rectory by a priest must be in conformity with the Diocese of Salina Safe Environment protocols and policies.
2. Only priests officially assigned to the rectory by the Bishop may reside in the rectory.
3. Only priests, seminarians, or their immediate family members may be overnight guests in rectories or cleric residences.
4. Guests staying more than three nights within a 30-day period are allowed only with the prior approval of the Bishop or Vicar General.
5. Elderly or infirm priests who require overnight or live-in assistance are to seek permission from the Bishop.
6. Requests for unforeseen exceptions to this policy are to be directed to the Bishop or Vicar General.

Given on this, the 26th day of February, 2015.



+Edward J. Weisenburger
Bishop of Salina



Section X - 120

**GUIDELINES FOR
EXTRAORDINARY FUND RAISING WITHIN PARISHES
(February 24, 2015)**

The Diocese of Salina recognizes the serious responsibility for Christian disciples to be of service to others, especially the poor. (c.f. Matgt.25:31-46). Recognizing that there are many groups who have requested to speak at Masses in order to subscribe donations for their causes, there have been requests to have a general policy for all parishes within our diocese.

Final supervision on extraordinary collections belongs to the Bishop. If a pastor is unclear if the collection is "extraordinary", he should contact the business office of the diocese for clarification. In general, it is left to the discretion of the local pastor to decide which, if any, Catholic groups or individuals are allowed to speak at the end of Mass or disseminate brochures seeking donations. It is also a pastor's discretion which, if any, Catholic groups are allowed to hold fundraising activities on parish grounds. It is always acceptable to allow groups or individuals sponsored by USCCB to explain their work (i.e. Catholic Relief Services, Catholic Campaign for Human Development) or seek donations.

All special, one-time collections sponsored by the Diocese (i.e. hurricane relief, earthquake relief) are optional unless otherwise designated by the Bishop. Ordinarily, the pastor can choose to support and encourage these collections as he deems appropriate.

All groups for the Mission Co-Op assigned to parishes by our Diocesan Office for the Propagation of the Faith are to be allowed to come to the parish and make a donation appeal. These groups are to be encouraged by the pastor to come to the parish and make the appeal rather than just send envelopes that are then distributed to parishioners. If one of these groups would like to return to the parish at later date to make a subsequent appeal, this must first be approved by the office of the Propagation of the Faith.

All appeals being made by a parish priest for their special interest outside the diocese of Salina (i.e. a mission trip that the priest is taking, helping out a diocese or parish in another country) are to be approved by our Bishop before they are announced and promoted.

All other groups -- local, national or international -- should not be allowed to speak or do fundraising on parish grounds without approval of the office of Propagation of the Faith. Most requests ordinarily will be approved, but there are certain groups that do not have the approval of the USCCB or local Diocesan leadership. Therefore, all extraordinary requests need to be screened before they are approved. If a person other than a parishioner is going to be allowed to solicit funds on parish grounds, then they will need to present to our Diocesan Chancellor a letter of suitability or a letter from their proper pastor/bishop saying they are a member of the Catholic Church and in good standing.



International Catholic Stewardship Council
Region IX
Stewardship
Conference

*To Be in Your Presence
and Minister to You.*

Friday, May 1, 2015
The Stoney Creek Hotel
and Conference Center
2601 S. Providence Road
Columbia, Missouri
573.442.6400

Sponsored by the Stewardship and Development
Offices of Region IX: Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska & Kansas

Join clergy, lay leaders, volunteers
and diocesan staff, all dedicated
to the continued formation of
stewardship as a way of life, for
an informative and inspirational
day. We will delve into the important
purpose, tools and impact of
parish stewardship processes
with particular focus on the
Eucharistic presence in our lives
as the most important aspect
of Christian Stewardship.

REGISTRATION

International Catholic Stewardship Council Region IX Stewardship Conference *To Be in Your Presence and Minister to You.*

Please register online (preferred) at www.dcdiocese.org/stewardship
or complete the form and return with check for \$90 per person to:

Eric Haselhorst
Diocese of Dodge City
910 Central
Dodge City, KS 67801
Phone: 620.227.1535

(Arch)diocese, Parish, Religious Community or Association

Contact Person

Street Address/City/State/Zip

Email/Phone

Please make checks payable to Region IX Stewardship Conference. Cancellations must be made by April 15
Attendees (Please print full names for badges.)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____



NEW THIS CONFERENCE!

Bring your questions! Two diocesan directors
of parish stewardship and other stewardship
veterans will be available to speak with you one-
to-one about the specific needs of your parish.

Stewardship: Sharing our gifts and ideas in love of God and other dioceses/parishes

Share your ideas. Let's fill the display tables!
Please bring an example of your parish materials
that represent an aspect of living as stewards:

- Hospitality
- Prayer
- Formation
- Service

ACCOMMODATIONS

Fifty rooms at The Stoney Creek Inn, sporting a beauti-
ful lodge-style feel, have been reserved for Conference
attendees. The price for the hotel is \$99 and includes
free Wi-Fi and breakfast for guests. To reserve your
room please call 573-442-6400.

REGION IX STEWARDSHIP CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

8:00 a.m.	Mass/Welcome Most Reverend John R. Gaydos, D.D., Bishop of Jefferson City, MO
9:00 a.m.	Registration/ Coffee and Muffins
9:30 a.m.	Plenary 1 – Fr. Rickey Valleroy
10:15 a.m.	Break
10:30 a.m.	Break out Session 1 <i>Practical Stewardship Ideas</i> Dave Baranowski <i>Starting Stewardship in Your Parish</i> Jody Paulsen <i>Parables for Leaders – Dan Ebener</i>
11:15 a.m.	Break
11:30 a.m.	Break out Session 2 <i>Stewardship MD – Fr. Ken VanHaverbeke</i> <i>Fostering Vocations in the Family and the Parish</i> Fr. Robert Matya <i>Stewardship Ideas/Q&A Panel</i> Dave Baranowski, Eric Haselhorst, Lesle Knop
.....	
12:15 p.m.	Lunch
1:00 p.m.	Break out Session 3 <i>The Relationship between Stewardship and Development</i> Fr. Ken VanHaverbeke and Mike Wescott <i>Stewardship and the Family – Jake Samour</i> <i>Strategic Planning for Parishes – Dan Ebener</i>
1:45 p.m.	Break
2:00 p.m.	Afternoon Prayer Fr. Gale Hammerschmidt
2:30 p.m.	Break
2:45	Plenary session Fr. Gale Hammerschmidt
3:30 p.m.	Closing

Break out Session 1
Practical Stewardship Ideas
Dave Baranowski
This session will review practical stewardship techniques that will enrich parish faith life, grow parish ministry participation and increase financial support for your parish.

Starting Stewardship in Your Parish
Jody Paulsen
This session will provide tangible tools you can use in your own parish highlighting the techniques that have been successful for starting your stewardship committee.

Parables for Leaders
Dan Ebener
This interactive workshop will draw up the wisdom of the Parables of Jesus and apply that wisdom to the practice of servant leadership and stewardship in the context of a parish.

Break out Session 2
Stewardship MD
Fr. Ken VanHaverbeke
Stewardship Fatigue Virus Syndrome is a common virus infecting parishes having lived the Stewardship Way of Life for several generations, but complacency and apathy have created an atmosphere of lethargy. Stewardship MD will allow a parish to test, diagnose and treat this infectious agent.

Fostering Vocations in the Family and the Parish
Fr. Robert Matya
In the Bishop's pastoral letter, we learn "that people do not hear the Lord's call in isolation from one another." Faithful stewards provide encouragement for those discerning a vocation. We are all called to foster vocations in the family and in the parish.

Stewardship Ideas/Q&A Panel
Dave Baranowski, Eric Haselhorst, Lesle Knop
This session will be an open forum to discuss stewardship topics with experts from dioceses across our region. If you have a question to ask or a story to share, please join us for the informational and entertaining panel discussion.

Break out Session 3
The Relationship between Stewardship and Development
Fr. Ken VanHaverbeke and Mike Wescott
Understanding the relationship between stewardship and development is essential to every diocese and is vital to building up God's Kingdom on earth. With such collaboration, the fruits of stewardship can benefit development efforts while the fruits of development can support true Christian stewardship.

Stewardship and the Family
Jake Samour
Many times people think that living stewardship as a way of life takes us out of and away from our families. In this presentation, Jake will discuss the many ways in which we can live and provide witness to our families of stewardship by the simple things we do every day of our lives.

Strategic Planning for Parishes
Dan Ebener
The primary responsibility of parish councils is to plan pastorally for the life of a parish. This workshop will present a very interactive model for strategic planning that has been successfully used by several Iowa parishes, as well as the Diocese of Davenport and its Catholic schools.

PRESENTATION SPEAKERS



Dave Baranowski has been the Director of Stewardship Education for the Archdiocese of St. Louis since 2012. He has worked directly with 92 of the 184 parishes within the Archdiocese on parish stewardship education. Prior to working for the Archdiocese of St. Louis, Dave had a 29 year career with Anheuser-Busch, primarily in marketing. Dave has a B.A. from the University of Missouri – St. Louis and a M.B.A. from Webster University.



Lesle M. Knop is the Executive Director of the Office of Stewardship and Development and the Catholic Foundation of Northeast Kansas, Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas. She is responsible for capital campaign and annual appeal oversight as well as stewardship education and formation. Lesle holds an M.S. in Journalism, is a Certified Fund Raising Executive and earned the Executive Certificate in Religious Fundraising from Indiana University.



Jake Samour is the Director for the Office of Marriage and Family Life in the Diocese of Wichita. With over 20 years of experience in the Catholic Church, he has delivered hundreds of presentations both in English and Spanish throughout the United States and Mexico and is considered an expert in the field of Human Sexuality, Marriage and Family Life. Originally from El Salvador, he migrated with his family to the U.S. over 35 years ago. Jake has a master's in theology from the John Paul II Institute on Marriage and Family.



Dr. Dan R. Ebener has been practicing leadership and developing leaders since 1976. He served as director of Catholic Charities in Davenport, IA from 1986-2006. He now teaches leadership at St. Ambrose University and serves part-time as director of planning for the Diocese of Davenport. Dan is a consultant, a prolific presenter and the author of *Servant Leadership Models for Your Parish* and *Blessings for Leaders*.



Fr. Robert Matya attended the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) and worked for the Gallup Organization before entering the seminary for the Diocese of Lincoln in 1989. He was ordained to the priesthood in 1995 and served two Nebraska parishes before being named chaplain for the Newman Center at UNL in 1998. Father Matya also serves as Vocation Director for the Diocese of Lincoln.



Fr. Ken VanHaverbeke, a priest of the Diocese of Wichita, was ordained in 1991. Graduating with a degree in Biology from Kansas State University he attended Mount St. Mary's Seminary. As pastor of various parishes in the Diocese of Wichita, he gained experience of shepherding souls and cultivating the gifts of preaching, teaching, and healing. Currently he serves as director of the Spiritual Life Retreat Center and Director of Stewardship for the Diocese of Wichita.



Eric Haselhorst has been the Director of Stewardship for the Diocese of Dodge City, Kansas for seven years. A graduate of Kansas State University with an M.S. in Secondary Education and B.S. in Agricultural Education, Eric is husband, father, teacher, creator, and entrepreneur.



Jody B. Paulsen served as Assistant Director of Parish Stewardship for the Lincoln, NE Catholic Diocese for five years. Currently, Jody and her family live in Yankton, SD where she works for the Archdiocese of Omaha in the Office of Evangelization and Catechesis, assisting rural parishes with their faith formation. Jody earned her B.A. from Nebraska Wesleyan University in social work and her M.A. from University of Nebraska Omaha.

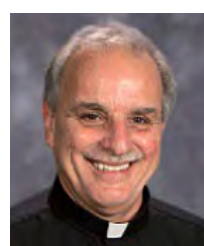


Mike Wescott has been the Director of Development and Planned Giving for the Catholic Diocese of Wichita since 2004. Prior, he was the Director of Development for Kapaun Mt. Carmel Catholic High School and worked for 15 years in Catholic health care as Vice President of Support Operations. Mike received a B.S. in Sociology and B.A. in History from Newman University, Wichita, KS and a master's in Hospital Administration from the University of Missouri – Columbia.

PLENARY SESSION SPEAKERS



Rev. Gale Hammerschmidt was ordained in 2012 after completing seven years of study at St. John Vianney Theological Seminary in Denver, Colorado. Fr. Gale grew up in Hays, Kansas, attended Kansas State University and received a degree in secondary education. Fr. Gale spent nine years as a history teacher and coach at Msgr. Luckey Jr. High School before going to the Seminary. Fr. Gale is currently the parochial vicar at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Salina, Kansas. He works mainly with the Hispanic community and is chaplain at Sacred Heart Junior/Senior High School. In 2014 Fr. Gale was named co-vocation director for the Diocese of Salina.



Fr. Rickey Valleroy is a priest of the Archdiocese of St. Louis. He holds a Master of Theological Studies from St. Meinrad School of Theology and a Master of Divinity from Kenrick/Glennon Seminary. Fr. Valleroy is a faculty member for the Pontifical Paul VI Institute for Catechetical and Pastoral Studies of the Archdiocese of St. Louis. Currently, he is the pastor for St. Joseph Parish in Farmington, MO and Vicar Forane of St. Genevieve Deanery. Fr. Valleroy directs numerous retreats, is a sought after speaker and actively involved in RCIA.

DON'T DELAY + REGISTER TODAY!

A Family Examination of Conscience
Office of New Evangelization, Diocese of Salina
Lent 2015

During 2015, the evangelization efforts in the diocese of Salina will be focused around evangelization in and through the family. The month of March's theme is Lenten reconciliation in and through the family.

Some questions for Young Adults and Teens

1. Have I mocked or made fun of others in my family? How would I recognize that teasing has become hurtful?
2. Have I stolen anything from a family member? Have I paid it back?
3. Do I allow busy-ness to limit my time with my family for healthy sharing and helping?
4. Have I been selfish or spiteful toward others in my family? Have I been jealous?
5. Have I been rebellious, disobedient, disrespectful, untruthful or deceptive to my parents?
6. Have I gotten angry or nurtured and held grudges and resentments toward my family members? Have I refused to forgive others? Have I cultivated hatred? Do I dwell only on the worst qualities and mistakes of my parents and other family members?

Some questions for Single Adult Persons

1. Have I gotten angry or nurtured and held grudges and resentments? Have I refused to forgive others—parents, relatives, a former spouse? Have I cultivated hatred?
2. Do I harbor feelings of self-pity in regard to me feeling that I'll never find anyone with whom I can intimately share my life?
3. Have I responded charitably to the sometimes unreasonable expectations of me and my time from my family?
4. Have I maintained a balance between responsibilities to work, church, my own health, and family?
5. Have I surrendered to detrimental feelings of grief, anger, and self-pity due to the loss of a loved one?

Some questions for Pre-Teen Children

1. Have I prayed and willingly attended Mass with my parents and family?
2. Have I performed my responsibilities, such as homework and household chores?
3. Have I been obedient to my parents and helpful and affectionate toward my family?
4. Have I talked back, lied, or been deceitful to my parents?
5. Have I pouted, been moody, and unforgiving toward my family members?
6. Have I been selfish toward my parents, brothers, and sisters? Have I gotten angry at them? Have I hit anyone?

Some questions for Married Persons

1. Have I asked the Holy Spirit to empower me to live the Christian life, to be a proper husband/wife and parent?
2. Have I cared for my spouse? Have I been generous with my time? Have I been affectionate and loving? Have I told my spouse that I love him or her? Have I been concerned about the spiritual well-being of my spouse?

3. Have I listened to my spouse? Have I paid attention to his or her concerns, worries, and problems? Have I sought these out?
4. Have I allowed resentments and bitterness toward my spouse to take root in my mind? Have I nurtured these? Have I forgiven my spouse for the wrongs he or she has committed against me? Have I allowed jealousy or envy to diminish the value I should place on my spouse?
5. Have I manipulated or bullied my spouse in order to get my own way? Have I lied to or been deceitful of my spouse?
6. Have I spoken sharply or sarcastically to my spouse? Have I spoken in a demeaning or negative way? Have I injured my spouse through taunting and negative teasing? Have I called my spouse harsh names or used language that is not respectful?
7. Have I physically abused my spouse?
8. Have I gossiped about my spouse?
9. Have I undermined the authority and dignity of my spouse through disrespect and rebelliousness?
10. Have I been moody and sullen?
11. Have I bickered with my spouse out of stubbornness and selfishness?
12. Have I misused sexuality? Have I used sexual relations solely for my own selfish pleasure? Have I been too demanding in my desire for sexual fulfillment? Have I been loving and physically affectionate in my sexual relations or have I used sexual relations in a way that would be demeaning or disrespectful to my spouse? Have I refused sexual relations out of laziness, revenge or manipulation?
13. Have I refused to conceive children out of selfishness or material greed? Have I used artificial means of contraception?
14. Have I flirted or fostered improper relationships with someone else, either in my mind or through words and actions? Have I committed adultery?
15. Have I used pornographic books, magazines or movies, thus denigrating my spouse?

Some questions for Parents and Parent-figures

1. Have I cared for the spiritual needs of my children? Have I been a shepherd and guardian as God has appointed me? Have I tried to foster a Christian family where Jesus is Lord? Have I taught my children the Gospel and the commandments of God? Have I prayed with them?
2. Have I been persistent and courageous in my training and teaching? Have I disciplined them when necessary? Have I been lazy and apathetic?
3. Have I talked with them to find out their problems, concerns and fears? Have I been affectionate toward them? Have I hugged them and told them that I love them? Have I played or recreated with them?
4. Have I been impatient and frustrated with them? Have I corrected them out of love in order to teach them what is right and good? Have I treated them with respect? Have I spoken to them in a sarcastic or demeaning way?
5. Have I held resentments against them? Have I forgiven them?
6. Have I been of one heart and mind with my spouse in the upbringing of the children? Or have I allowed disagreements and dissension to disrupt the training, educating and disciplining of our children?
7. Have I undermined the role of authority in the eyes of my children by speaking negatively against God, the Church, my spouse or others who hold legitimate authority over them?
8. Have I been a good Christian witness to my children in what I say and do? Or do I demand one standard for them and another for myself?
9. Have I been properly generous with my children regarding money and physical and material well-being? Have I been miserly? Have I been extravagant, thus spoiling them?

Encountering Christ in and through the Family, 2015
Reflection guide for *A Family Examination of Conscience*
Office of New Evangelization, Diocese of Salina

In the honesty that often uniquely happens in the family, we are sometimes humbled as we realize (and sometimes are inconveniently confronted with) our faults and sins. In the family we also experience the joy of faithfulness despite our failings. We experience not only truthful confrontation, but also we are invited to see ourselves through the eyes of those who love us and who see more to us than our sins, more than even we can see in ourselves.

1. Ask yourself: which question (or questions) *in A Family Examination of Conscience* most clearly identifies my own sin? Having named that sin, who in my family is a channel of God's grace, forgiveness, and redemption to me? How does that family member and their love for me give me hope that I can change for the better? How does that family member help me to see that there is more to me than my worst failures and traits?
2. Using a favorite prayer (Our Father, Glory Be, etc. or a prayer in your own words) give thanks to God.
3. Tell someone you trust about doing this spiritual activity. (It's a form of evangelization.)

(This is the seventh of nine tools to facilitate brief faith-sharing at a parish meeting in keeping with the theme of the 2014-15 catechetical year, *Teaching about God's Gift of Forgiveness*. These articles are provided by the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, via the New Evangelization Office of the Diocese of Salina. **Suggested use:** this handout could be provided to meeting participants in advance, to give them the opportunity to reflect on the Teaching Tool content and the Reflection Question. As a meeting opening, the Teaching Tool content could be read aloud, followed by a few minutes' discussion of the Reflection Question.)

Tool 7: Forgiveness in the family and the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony

Teaching tool

Most Catholics probably do not think about forgiveness when they think about the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony, unless they are thinking about the Church's advice that it is good for couples to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation shortly before their marriage. But forgiveness is one of the graces that flows from this sacrament as well; just a bit differently than in other sacraments.

The Sacrament of Holy Matrimony is conferred by spouses on each other through their free and uncoerced expression of their promise of permanent, faithful, and unconditional love by means of their wedding vows. God blesses the spouses with the sacramental graces that give them the power to live what they have promised far beyond their natural human abilities. Thus, those who allow these graces to bear fruit in their marriage find that it gives expression in charity, the common work of caring for creation, self-sacrifice, hospitality, patience, forgiveness, tenderness, and the temporal, moral, and spiritual formation of children. Thus, it is not that God offers his gift of forgiveness to a spouse entering into the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony, but that God shares with each spouse the ability to forgive the other.

And this forgiveness of couples, one for the other, becomes the basis of forgiveness in the family that flows from this marriage. The Church teaches that a family is an important expression of the Church and indeed names it the "domestic church." The first teachers of children are parents and other members of the family. In the family, one learns endurance and the joy of work, fraternal love, forgiveness, and above all, divine worship in prayer and the offering of one's life.

In the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony, God gives the gift of sharing in forgiveness and teaching others by living it--how to ask for and bestow forgiveness on one another.

Reflection Question

How did your family of origin first teach you about asking for, receiving, and giving forgiveness? How have you seen in other families the blessing of the ability to give and receive forgiveness? Do you find families that celebrate forgiveness to be joyful?

Additional References

Catechism of the Catholic Church nos. 1641-1642, 1657; *United States Catholic Catechism for Adults* pp. 376-377

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Single Parent Networker



A publication of the Family Life Office of the Archdiocese of Omaha, Nebraska

Volume 24 Issue 4

April 2015

Developing Your Child's Self-Esteem

Healthy self-esteem is like a child's armor against the challenges of the world. Kids who know their strengths and weaknesses and feel good about themselves seem to have an easier time handling conflicts and resisting negative pressures. They tend to smile more and enjoy life. These kids are realistic and generally optimistic.

In contrast, kids with low self-esteem can find challenges to be sources of major anxiety and frustration. Those who think poorly of themselves have a hard time finding solutions to problems. If given to self-critical thoughts such as "I'm no good" or "I can't do anything right," they may become passive and withdrawn. Faced with a new challenge, their immediate response might be "I can't."

WHAT IS SELF ESTEEM?

Self-esteem is similar to self-worth. This can change from day to day or from year to year, but overall self-esteem trends to develop from infancy and keep going until we are adults.

Self-esteem also can be defined as feeling capable while also feeling loved. A child who is happy with an achievement but does not feel loved may eventually experience low self-esteem. Likewise, a child who feels loved but is hesitant about his or her own abilities can also develop low self-esteem. Healthy self-esteem comes when a good balance is maintained. Patterns of self-esteem start early in life. The concept of success following effort and persistence starts early. Once people reach adulthood, it's harder

to make changes to how they see and define themselves.

So, it's wise to think about developing and promoting self-esteem during childhood. As kids try, fail. Try again, fail again, and then finally succeed, they develop ideas about their own capabilities. At the same time, they're creating a self-concept based on interactions with other people. This is why parental involvement is key to helping kids form accurate, healthy self-perceptions.

SIGNS OF UNHEALTHY AND HEALTHY SELF-ESTEEM

Self-esteem fluctuates as kids grow. It's frequently changed and fine-tuned, because it is affected by a child's experiences and new perceptions. So it helps to be aware of the signs of both healthy and unhealthy self-esteem.

Kids with low self-esteem see temporary setbacks as permanent, intolerable conditions, and a sense of pessimism prevails. This can place kids at risk for stress and mental health problems, as well as real difficulties solving different kinds of problems and challenges they encounter.

Kids with healthy self-esteem tend to enjoy interacting with others. They're comfortable in social settings and enjoy group activities as well as independent pursuits. When challenges arise, they can work toward finding solutions and voice discontent without belittling themselves or others. For example, rather than saying, "I'm an idiot" a child with healthy self-esteem says, "I don't understand this." They know their strengths and weaknesses, and

accept them. A sense of optimism prevails.

HOW PARENTS CAN HELP

How can a parent help to foster healthy self-esteem in a child? These tips can make a big difference:

Be careful what you say. Kids can be sensitive to parents' and others' words. Remember to praise your child not only for a job well done, but also for effort. But be truthful. For example, if your child doesn't make the soccer team, avoid saying "Well. Next time you'll work harder and make it." Instead, try "Well, you didn't make the team, but I'm really proud of the effort you put into it." Reward effort and completion instead of outcome.

Be a positive role model. If you're excessively harsh on yourself, pessimistic, or unrealistic about your abilities and limitation, your kids might eventually mirror you. Nurture our own self-esteem and they'll have a great role model.

Identify and redirect inaccurate beliefs. It's important for parents to identify a child's irrational beliefs about themselves, whether they're about perfection, attractiveness, ability, or anything else. Helping kids set more accurate standards and be more realistic in evaluating themselves will help them have a healthy self-concept.

Inaccurate perceptions of self can take root and become reality to kids. For example, a child who does very well in school but struggles with math may say, "I can't do math. I'm a bad student." Not only is this a

false generalization, it's also a belief that can set a child up for failure. Encourage kids to see a situation in a more objective way.

Be spontaneous and affectionate. Your love will help boost your child's self-esteem. Give hugs and tell kids you're proud of them when you can see them putting effort toward something at which they previously failed. Put notes in your child's lunchbox with messages like "I think you're terrific!"

Give praise often and honestly, but without overdoing it. Having an inflated sense of self can lead kids to put others down or feel that they're better than everyone else. Which can be socially isolating.

Give positive, accurate feedback. Comments like "You always work yourself up into such a frenzy!" will make kids feel like they have no control over their outbursts. A better statement is, "I can see you were very angry with your brother, but it was nice that you were able to talk about it instead of yelling or hitting." This acknowledges a child's feelings, rewards the choice made, and encourages the child to make the right choice again.

Create a safe, loving home environment. Kids who don't feel safe or are abused at home are at greatest risk for developing poor self-esteem. A child who is exposed to parents who fight and argue repeatedly may feel they have no control over their environment and become helpless or depressed.

Also watch for signs of abuse by others, problems in school, trouble with peers, and other factors that may affect a child's self-esteem. Encourage your kids to talk to you.

Help kids become involved in constructive experiences. Activities that encourage cooperation rather than competition are especially helpful in fostering self-esteem. For example, mentoring programs in which an older child helps a younger one learn to read can do wonders for both kids.

When promoting healthy self-esteem, it's important to not have too much or too little but "just enough." Make sure

your kids don't end up feeling that if they're average or normal at something, it's the same as not being good or special.

Finding Professional Help If you suspect your child has low self-esteem, consider getting professional help. Child and adolescent therapist and counselors can help identify coping strategies to help deal with problems at school or home in ways that help kids feel better about themselves. Therapy can help kids learn to view themselves and the world more realistically and help with problem solving. Developing the confidence to understand when you can deal with a problem and when to ask for help is vital to positive self-esteem.

Taking responsibility and pride in who you are is a sure sign of healthy self-esteem and the greatest gift parents can give to their child.

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Holy Week

Forgiven

"For this is my blood
of the covenant,
which is poured
out for many for the
forgiveness of sins."

Matthew 26:28



Parenting Pointers

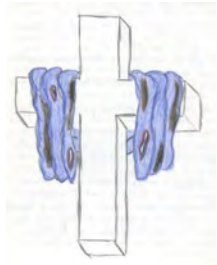
618. Apr. 3: Good Friday. On many days parenting is a joy, but on some days it certainly can be a cross. Let the cross have purpose by looking beyond it and believing that your child will overcome his or her difficulties.

619. Apr. 10: April is child abuse prevention month. If you haven't already, alert your children that they should tell you when ANYONE touches them inappropriately. Sexual abuse by those in authority is tragic.

620. Apr. 17: Next Wednesday, April 22, is Earth Day. In preparation, why don't you and your children clean up some of God's creation. Pick a park, a street, a place of nature to clear of litter. For inspiration check out: [Daniel 3:57-81](#)

621. Apr. 24: "A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep." (John 10:11) A good parent is like a good shepherd. We spend our time, money, and worries on our children. In essence, we lay down our lives for their good. Remember that you as a parent also have The Good Shepherd who cares for you in the same way.

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ALLELUIA

Alleluia

Alleluia

He is not here. Christ is risen indeed!"

Today do something good out of love for our risen Lord!

Easy and Fun Easter Baskets

Ingredients

4 cups chow mein noodles
1/2 cup light corn syrup
1/2 cup sugar
3/4 cup peanut butter
36 jelly beans



Directions

In a large bowl break chow mein noodles into small pieces; set aside.

Combine sugar and corn syrup in large saucepan.

Cook on medium heat until the sugar is melted and there are bubbles at the edge of the pan.

Add peanut butter and stir until smooth.

Pour peanut butter mixture over crunched up noodles; toss until completely coated.

Let cool slightly to avoid burns.

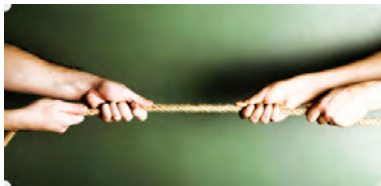
Butter hands lightly and use approximately 1/4 cup mixture to form a compact ball.

Make indentation in the middle of each ball to resemble a bird's nest.

Place on waxed paper and let cool completely.

Place 2-3 jelly beans inside each nest.

Serve on a bed of green-tinted coconut.



Dealing With Family Tensions

Family tensions can develop as adults and children enter new phases of their lives. Children grow from infants to preschoolers to school age children to adolescents to adults. Parents respond to the changing needs of their family, workplace, and social life. Learning to handle family tensions, either between parents, between children or between parents and children is critical to family survival.

Here are some ideas to try and deal with the tensions in your family:

- Allow a "cooling off period" if one or more of the family members are too emotional, continuing the discussion at this time may be counterproductive. Discuss the problem when things have calmed down.
- Listen calmly in the heat of an argument. Anger, excitement, and self-interest may prevent you from clearly hearing and understanding what the other person is saying.
- Hear the other family member out without interrupting or saying, "Yes, but . . .".
- Avoid power struggles between individuals. Focus on treating family members as responsible people.
- Expect and encourage family members to settle their own disagreements. Avoid being drawn into fights as either a referee or judge.
- Set reasonable limits for behavior.
- When possible make sure that you and your former spouse agree on acceptable behavior. Follow through and be consistent with your discipline techniques.
- Tell your children how their behavior affects others.
- Attach negative consequences (i.e., withdraw privileges) to undesirable behavior. Reward desired behavior with positive consequences (i.e., new privileges).
- Model the desired behavior you expect. Actions do speak louder than words.

Some amount of tension within families is inevitable. When two or more individuals live in close proximity, there are bound to be conflicting needs and desires. The goal is to learn to minimize tensions and resolve conflicts in a fair manner to improve the quality of family life.



Holy Thursday

Be of service—It is lowly and difficult. We prefer to be served. So Jesus showed us what to do, He washed the feet of the disciples.

Good Friday

Put yourself in God's hands—Accept and submit rather than fight. Jesus accepts his unjust conviction and puts Himself completely in God's hands.

Easter

Believe that Jesus' spirit lives among us—It is very important to help children connect the significance of the cross with the resurrection. Jesus' death has no meaning without his subsequent rising from the dead. The death of Jesus was not the end, but the beginning.

Be glad and shout for joy. 1Peter 4:13

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CHRIST

our Hope

has RISEN! Rejoice!



The Easter season of celebrating Jesus' resurrection lasts 50 days ending at Pentecost. Use some of the following ideas to enjoy this season of new life and rejoicing.

Home Decorations:

Decorate your home—symbols of Easter help us to celebrate the good news of Christ's resurrection in our homes. Cut out crosses from bright yellow construction paper, make paper butterflies, or purchase a lily. Keep Easter baskets in view until Pentecost. Fill them with plants or hollow eggs. Place a crucifix in a prominent place at home. Light an Easter candle daily during meals or at bedtime during the 50 days of the Easter season.

Easter Water:

Bring home a small bottle of water blessed at the Easter Vigil Mass. With the holy water, ask God's blessing upon your home, family members and special events throughout the year. The water is a reminder of our baptism and the promise of eternal life. Continue to use it all year long by blessing fearful children, new bike riders, seeds for the garden, and sick or traveling family members.

Easter Egg Blessing:

On Easter morning, ask all family members to sign the cross over their Easter eggs and say this blessing: "God bless these Easter eggs, sign of new life bursting forth in our home. Blessed are you, God of all creation, for the gift of your Son, Jesus. We rejoice in His resurrection. Alleluia, Alleluia. Alleluia."

Scripture Reading:

Keep the Easter story alive at home. Several times each week at meal or bedtimes, read the day's scripture story about Jesus' appearances after Easter. If your parish bulletin does not list the day's scriptures, ask for them so you can follow the excitement of the early Christians after the resurrection.

Easter Candle:

Make an Easter candle at home for use during the 50 days of Easter. Start with a white pillar candle and press Easter symbols into it. If you are "crafty," you can decoupage Easter symbols into the candle. Put it in a prominent place as a reminder of the Easter joy the Church celebrates.

Baptismal Remembrance:

Remember your baptism during the Easter season. Designate a special night for each family member to remember and celebrate his/her baptism. Take out pictures, home movies or videos of the baptism, and find prayer cards or gifts received if you have them. Post each child's baby picture in a special place and ask the child to choose the dinner menu. A small gift may be appropriate. Give thanks for that child's entrance into God's family and your family.

New Christian Welcome:

Welcome new members of the Christian community received into the Church at Easter. Sometime during the Easter season, welcome new members by taking a meal or a treat to their home with a welcome note, or invite them to your home. Encourage other households of faith to do the same.

Easter Walk:

Take an Easter walk; gather family members for a spring walk in a forest or on a path in a nearby park. Point out how nature repeats the cycle of death, decay and new life. Let children bring home objects that show this transformation from death to new life: beetle shells, acorns, leaves, new grass, etc. Place them in an Easter box to show friends and neighbors.

Easter Garden:

Plant an Easter garden. Gardens, large or small, allow us to see the seed die and the new plant come to life with care and nourishment from us. Gardens show in ordinary ways how God creates new life out of death. Share what you produce with others as a simple way of sharing the new life you have been given in Christ.

Spring Cleaning:

Create a tradition of spring cleaning after Easter to commemorate the passing of the old and the arrival of the new. If possible, let each family member bring something new into their room or space. Clean up and give away old things that are no longer needed by your family.



Alleluia

He is

RISEN!

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