

Dear PCLs (DREs) and Youth Ministers, January 7, 2016

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit. Psalm 51:12, ESV

From the Religious Education & Adult Faith Formation Office

Bryan Reising

breising@dnu.org 507-233-5323
http://www.dnu.org/religious-education/



BLESSED EPIPHANY!

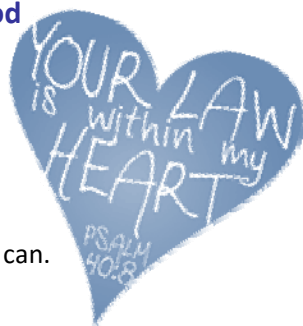
**TASKS OF CATECHESIS:
PROMOTING MORAL FORMATION
IN JESUS CHRIST**

by Bryan Reising

Common questions that should come up throughout our day: What is right and what is wrong? Before I speak, what is the right thing to say and what is the wrong thing to say? These questions deal with morality, and as we pass on the faith we need to teach about morality in regards to following Christ Jesus. Basic morality comes from natural law and scripturally through the Ten Commandments and the many things Jesus said regarding the Beatitudes, how to love others, how to serve others, especially the poor. It boils down to how we love God and how we love each other.

Loving God

Jesus said, "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind." The first three commandments help us to love God as completely as we can.



The first commandment deals with God as the center of our lives and how no other god or anything or anyone else does not replace God. It reads:

"I am the LORD your God: you shall not have strange Gods before me"

This means that nothing and no one – money, power, possessions, other persons, fame, other gods, other spirits – will replace the One True God in three persons – the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

The second Commandment deals with respect for the name of God. It reads:

"You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain."

This means we can use the name in our worship, in prayer, in our evangelizing and catechizing efforts, in theological discussion. According to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, it affirms this: "Preaching and catechizing should be permeated with adoration and respect for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." (CCC 2145)

It also means that we cannot take false oaths, blaspheme the very name of God, and condemn others by God's name. God's name as well as all persons who are God's creation are to be given honor and respect.

The third commandment reads:

"Remember to keep holy the LORD'S Day."

The Lord's Day was the Sabbath – Saturday, according to the Old Testament and Jewish practice. Since the Resurrection of Jesus, it is now, Sunday. With that, we are to participate at the Mass during Sunday (from Saturday evening to Sunday evening). We are to participate in the liturgy on Holy Days of Obligation, like the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception and the Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary. Worshiping on Sundays and Holy Days by participating at Mass is considered a Church precept. Of course it is encouraged to worship God at any weekday Mass that one can be available for. In addition, Sundays need to

be a day of rest, time spent with family, cultural events and celebrations, and service to those in need.

Loving Our Neighbor

Jesus also said, “Love your neighbor as yourself” and “whatever you do to the least of these, you do for me.” So loving our neighbor manifests itself in many ways we love our neighbor, our fellow person as we will see with the remainder of the commandments.

The fourth commandment deals with our parents and others in authority:

“Honor your father and your mother.”

Parents have the important role of educating and raising their children in Church and society. They are the first catechists of the faith and continue to form their children in the faith helping them to live by Gospel values. Children are to know that they are to respect and obey their parents and learn from them and their faith, experience, and wisdom. Of course, when parents order children to do something that is morally wrong, the children must not do so. (CCC 2217) This commandment also extends to others in authority as well, to obey supervisors and government authorities with due prudence, as long as those authorities are not abusing their power and they respect individuals’ rights and freedoms.

The fifth commandment is: **“You shall not kill.”**

This commandment refers to murdering another human person, being an accessory to a murder, or even, harming another person. This commandment includes abortion, euthanasia, suicide (of course, looking at the state of mind is taken into account – sometimes not knowing this and relying on God’s mercy), unjust war, terrorism, gang violence, and capital punishment, (for the most part, as St. John Paul has communicated, that in today’s world, this should be rarely done). And these are tempered with self defense and the just war theory. But the aim is to protect all human life, at all stages, upholding the dignity of the human person, and be peacemakers, as followers of the Prince of Peace.

The sixth commandment deals with proper sexual relationships and those that are sinful or disordered. **It reads:**

“You shall not commit adultery.”

The *Catechism* teaches us about chastity in a beautiful way: “Chastity means the successful integration of sexuality within the person and thus the inner unity of

man in his bodily and spiritual being. Sexuality, in which man’s belonging to the bodily and biological world is expressed, becomes personal and truly human when it is integrated into the relationship of one person to another, in the complete and lifelong mutual gift of a man and a woman.” (CCC 2337) The sins against chastity are lust, masturbation, fornication (sexual relationships outside of marriage), pornography, prostitution, rape, and homosexual acts. It also stresses marriage as between a husband and wife and sex within this context is a beautiful thing as it brings unity to the couple and is open to children.

The seventh commandment deals with respecting the personal property of others, the universal destination of goods, and stealing, taking things without asking or at will: **“You shall not steal.”**

Regarding this commandment, the *Catechism* does delve into the topics of private property, respect for the goods of others, commutative justice (which regulates exchanges between persons and between institutions in accordance with a strict respect for their rights), respect for the integrity of creation, the Social Doctrine of the Church, economic activity, social justice, justice and solidarity between nations, and love for the poor. We are to respect the goods of others and the goods of God’s creation – which leads to peace, caring for God’s creation, and generosity to helping the poor with immediate needs and then helping to empower the poor to be self-sufficient.

The eighth commandment deals with the issue of truthfulness and refraining from lying: **“You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.”**

In the *Catechism*, it states in the Old Testament that God is the source of truth. In the New Testament, it states that in Jesus, the truth of God is made manifest. Thus, as believers and by nature, we tend toward the truth. And we are to bear witness to the truth. Offenses against the truth include false witness, perjury, rash judgment, detraction, calumny (which through lying can ruin the reputation of another person), and boasting; and all these lies demand reparation for the damage done. Respect for the truth includes the respect of privacy regarding the request for information, not breaking the seal of confession by a priest, and not sharing professional information that is not to be leaked. The *Catechism* also includes social communication media and truth, beauty and sacred art.



The ninth commandment refers to coveting someone else's spouse:

You shall not covet your neighbor's wife.

Here the *Catechism* deals with the concept of concupiscence which refers to any intense form of human desire. "Christian theology has given it a particular meaning: the movement of the sensitive appetite contrary to the operation of the human reason." (CCC 2515) It goes on to state that the purification of heart is important to combat concupiscence. The virtue of prudence is necessary inspired by the Beatitude: "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God." (Mt 5:8) Then it ends with the topic of the battle for purity which includes prayer, chastity, purification of intention and vision, modesty, and a purification of the social climate which the climate may include a sense of moral permissiveness. The Good News of Christ along with its values continues to purify in order for us and society to be more in tune with these values.

And the tenth commandment is:

You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.

So from the ninth commandment, this notion of concupiscence extends to the tenth commandment, to other's possessions: their house, their money, their goods, and so on. The *Catechism* first covers this commandment as a Disorder of Covetous Desires which includes greed, avarice, and envy. It goes on to cover the Desires of the Spirit. It states: "The economy of law and grace turns men's hearts away from avarice and envy." (CCC 2541) It goes on to read that the desires of the Spirit truly satisfy...much, much more than the desires of other people's possessions. It goes on to state that there is a need for a poverty of heart, a detachment. Pope Francis has been modeling this poverty so that our focus is on Christ, to see God more clearly without distractions.

These commandments along with natural law and the very words of Christ can help us follow Christ more closely and live as people who truly love God and all people.

MOMENTS OF MERCY...

Here are some ideas to create moments of mercy throughout the Jubilee Year of Mercy:

- Emphasize teachings on mercy within your religious education texts
- Develop or promote a process for returning Catholics, to reach Catholics we miss. Awakening Faith is a process developed by the Paulist Fathers that does this:

<http://www.pemdc.org/programs/awakening-faith/>

- Pray for the pilot of the SINE missionary pastoral process (Light of the World AFC)
- Catechize on reconciliation during Lent in preparation for "24 Hours with the Lord" and other initiatives
- Focus on mercy during Faith Formation Days 2016
- Produce a video with narration showing pictures and video of corporeal works of mercy and spiritual works of mercy; narration can be for three different audiences: children, youth, and adults
- Have a video contest among youth on the theme of mercy

OSV has resources on Mercy that might be helpful as well: <https://www.osv.com/Shop/ParishResources/YearofMercy.aspx>, and send us your ideas and stories throughout this Jubilee Year of Mercy to inspire others!

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

Gathers for the Year

9:30 gather; 10 a.m. start – 3 p.m....St. Aloysius Jubilee Center in Olivia - 302 S 10th St. (unless otherwise noted)

Monday, January 11

Note: Change in location-Redwood Falls, St. Catherine

Sr. Myriam Rose Schaffer, Director of Worship, will present

"Liturgical Catechesis." "Mass is boring." Why?

How could it be boring to receive the gift of infinite love poured out on the cross, offered in the very Body and Blood of Christ, who lifts up every aspect of my life to the Father and transforms it with his own divine life? Because most people do not know that this is what happens at Mass! This is not the fault of the Mass itself. The Catechism of the Catholic Church emphasizes that the primary place to teach on the meaning of the Mass is *outside* of the Mass. This presentation will offer you suggestions and tools to help those of every age enter into the deepest, richest meaning of the liturgy. Mass will never be boring again, once we understand what it truly is.

Monday, February 8 – Olivia

Monday, March 14 – Olivia

Monday, April 11 – Curriculum Day, New Ulm

Monday, May 9 – TBA – *Bishop LeVoiur will present*



Riverbend TEC

Together Encountering Christ retreats for adults and youth:

- January 16-18 in Winsted at Holy Trinity Catholic Church
- March 5-7 in New Ulm at Cathedral
- July 30-August 1 in New Ulm at Cathedral

To sign up, contact: riverbendtec@gmail.com to receive an application.

Parish Visits

Bryan Reising will be on the road again this catechetical year starting in September of 2015 for some parish visits (twice a month). He will visit on the day of your Faith Formation. This will run through May of 2016.

Please contact him to figure out a date that will work for you or he may contact you for that visit as he lines up his schedule. He will not get to all places during the catechetical year, but he would like to get to all regions and most area faith communities. Keep in mind, that Bryan recognizes that this is a very busy day for you. So don't feel you have to give him special treatment. If you have time to meet with him that afternoon, that would be great, but don't feel obligated. He can always meet with you on another day or through a phone call. The main idea for this is to look at what is happening that can benefit other parishes and area faith communities.

What will happen with these visits? The following are some possibilities: an observation of your faith formation during the time of instruction, perhaps an in-service with your catechists, or even a catechetical presentation as a guest catechist for adults, youth, or children.

Keep in mind that this is not an audit, but a visit to observe and be of service. He will have an assessment tool to benefit your catechetical ministry. Discuss with your pastor or pastoral administrator a good time to arrange a visit. Contact Bryan to arrange a date and time: breising@dnu.org or call the Office for Religious Education and Adult Faith Formation, 507-233-5324.

Scheduled Parish Visits:

September 23 – Holy Cross AFC, New Ulm
October 14 – Christ the King AFC, Tyler, Ivanhoe
October 28 – St. Joseph in Lamberton
December 6 – St. John in Appleton (Micronesian Community), Marshall (Hispanic community)
December 9 – St. Peter in Canby
January 13 – St. Edward in Minneota
I have openings for more future visits!

University of Dayton's Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation (VLCFF)

Be a part of these online learning opportunities! They have certificates for Catechesis, Youth Ministry, Leadership, Adult Faith Formation, Marianist Studies, and Social Justice! This is a great gift for your catechists! **By the way, Bryan will be facilitating a course on the RCIA. This is for RCIA coordinators and their team members. Sign up now!**

Cycle 1: January 10 - February 13, 2016

(Registration: Opens Oct 29, 2015; Closes Jan 6)

- [A Vision for Catholic Youth Ministry](#)
- [Advanced Catholic Social Teaching](#)
- [Autism in Faith Formation \(SN 4\)](#)
- [Bible Basics](#)
- [Catholic Beliefs](#)
- [Catholic Teaching on Chastity, Family Life, and Human Sexuality Education](#)
- [Church History 1](#)
- [Collaboration and Community](#)
- [Conscience](#)
- [Creative Methodologies: ADHD in Parish Life - Pastoral Implications \(SN 3\)](#)
- [Disabilities in Parish Life: An Overview \(SN 1\)](#)
- [Ecclesiology: Beginnings of the Church](#)
- [Ecclesiology: Reframing Church](#)
- [Facilitating Adult Learning and Faith Formation \(AFL 4\)](#)
- [Faith and Human Development](#)
- [Fundamentals in Deaf Faith Formation Methodologies \(SN 2\)](#)
- [Galatians](#)
- [Images of Jesus](#)
- [Introduction to Catechesis](#)
- [Introduction to Christian Morality](#)
- [Introduction to Liturgy](#)
- [Introduction to Practical Morality](#)
- [Introduction to Prayer](#)
- [Introduction to Scripture](#)
- [Introduction to the Sacraments of Initiation](#)
- [Marianist Studies: Community](#)
- [Marianist Studies: William J. Ferree, SM: Social Justice](#)
- [Marianist Studies: Mary, Holy Possibility](#)
- [New Testament](#)
- [Old Testament](#)
- [Our Hearts Were Burning](#)
- [Pastoral Approach to Culture](#)
- [RCIA](#)
- [Sacrament of Marriage: A Holy Calling](#)
- [Sacraments](#)
- [Spirituality in Adult Learning and Faith Formation \(AFL 6\)](#)
- [Study of The Joy of the Gospel \(Evangelii Gaudium\)](#)
- [Survey of Catholic Doctrine](#)
- [Survey of Catholic Social Teaching](#)

- [The Parish Nurse as Counselor and Spiritual Companion](#)
- [The Parish Nurse: Facilitating Wholistic Health Through the Lifespan](#)
- [Theological Reflection: Key to Connecting Faith and Life](#)
- [Vocation, Spirituality and Discipleship of Catechists](#)

For new students to register for VLCCFF:

<http://vlc.udayton.edu/profile/agreement.php>

For returning VLCCFF students to register for another course: <http://vlc.udayton.edu/register/>

VLCCFF has certificates for catechists, for ministry leadership, for youth ministry, for adult faith formation, and social justice. Encourage your catechists to get the Certificate for Catechesis. If some of you want a closed course on a particular course, please contact Bryan Reising.

For further information and discussion of further ideas, call 507-233-5324; breising@dnu.org.

Cost for the 3-Week Seminar is \$40 and the five-week course is \$50. Certificates are \$20.

Scholarships are available: Web site for the Hilary and Elizabeth Mohr Catechist Fund for scholarships:

<http://static1.squarespace.com/static/55844033e4b0b4466f11c152/t/55db2f84e4b05c60e8774f35/1440427908543/MohrScholarship-CatechistFormationFund-ApplicationFo>

Office for Religious Education, Diocese of New Ulm:
<http://www.dnu.org/religious-education/>

Catechetical Planning

For those who are catechetical leaders, Bryan Reising can provide a closed course on "Designing a Parish Catechetical Plan." Other catechetical leaders who have taken this three-week seminar found it very helpful in looking at all aspects of planning for catechesis for their AFC or parish. Please contact Bryan at breising@dnu.org if you are interested.

NIKA-another online learning opportunity for those in the Diocese of New Ulm



NIKA Catholic Catechetical Institute (NCCI) exists to make Jesus Christ better known and better loved. It offers faith-filled college level continuing education for non-traditional students and adults who are seeking to deepen their faith life. The course aim

primarily at personal faith formation (intellectual and spiritual) and secondarily are helpful to those seeking classroom applications. Faith formation is the primary emphasis because the faith-filled person will be more effective in communicating faith and making Christian disciples than the unconvinced technician who has not developed a consistent prayer life: "A theologian is one who prays..."

Enjoy continuing education from the convenience of your home. Free online presentations for continuing education as well as mini-courses have begun. For further information...<http://www.nikacatholic.com/>

Early Catholic Family Life (ECFL)

Please be reminded the Diocese of New Ulm has learning materials available to check out to area faith communities offering the Early Catholic Family Life program. Early Catholic Family Life (ECFL) is a wonderful program for parents with children 0-5 years old. ECFL is structured seven session two-hour class patterned after the highly successful and popular Minnesota ECFL program (Early Childhood Family Education.) ECFL consists of a parent-child interaction component, a parent discussion time, and children's learning and play time. This program emphasizes the importance of putting faith at the center of family life at the earliest ages. It is an opportunity to discuss faith education with Catholic parents and an opportunity for parents and preschools to have fun learning more about God together. If you do not have parish staff trained to lead the program but want to learn more call one of our offices. To arrange for checking out of the lesson material bins please contact Cindy Blickem at cblickem@dnu.org

Religious Education Safe Environment Compliance Reminders

Thank you for sending in the children's lesson reports! And, many of you are sending in your make-up session information. Offer one make-up opportunity as soon as possible and get your make-up report in no later than February 1, 2016.

If you have not already done so, meet with your local safe environment coordinator (LSEC) to review VIRTUS active rosters. It is critical to confirm all of your catechists are registered and active in VIRTUS. You must work with your LSEC.

Any catechetical leader, youth minister, catechist, adults helping with youth ministry, or anyone who may be in a minister with minors is required to be in total compliance with safe environment requirements prior to serving. Your LSEC should be able to run a parish master list for your convenience as needed. If not, have the LSEC contact the diocesan office. Detailed information on Safe Environment components is available on the diocesan Web site.

Annual volunteer training was posted on 8/24/15. These should have been completed by 9/24/15. We have 94 volunteers throughout the diocese that

have not completed their online training; they are not in compliance. They are not allowed to be unsupervised with minors. Your LSEC has the names of these individuals. For those not in compliance, you may want to have them come to the parish early on the night of religious education, have a tablet or two (iPad or other) available for those volunteers with your program that have not yet completed the online training. It can be done on the larger screen smart phones quite easily as well.

Thank you for your cooperation in our efforts to keep our children and youth safe!

VIRTUS Trainings

Protecting God's Children for Adults

A complete list with the most updated information can be found on the diocesan Web site:

https://www.virtusonline.org/virtus/reg_list2.cfm?theOrgID=25411&theme=0

Mohr Catechist Formation Fund...

A Gift for You, Your Catechists, Your Youth Team Members, Your Teachers of Religion

This scholarship fund is a great gift for your catechists, teachers, youth ministry team, and many of you! You can receive scholarships for Faith Formation Day and other catechist formation opportunities, opportunities outside the diocese, online courses through the University of Dayton's VLCFF (Virtual Learning Community of Faith Formation), and even some college courses on faith formation. Please submit your applications soon! An application is on our Web site:

<http://static1.squarespace.com/static/55844033e4b0b4466f11c152/t/55db2f84e4b05c60e8774f35/1440427908543/MohrScholarship-CatechistFormationFund-ApplicationFo>

Interested in a Bachelors or Masters in Theology, Religious Education, Pastoral Ministry, Parish Administration, or Canon Law?

St. Mary's University of Minnesota:

<http://www.smumn.edu/undergraduate-home/areasofstudy/theology/theology>. (They offer BA in Theology, Religious Education, Pastoral and Youth Ministry; they also offer a Graduate Certificate in Canon Law)

St. Paul Seminary Graduate Program for Lay

People: <http://www.stthomas.edu/spssod/graduate/degree/mare/>

(this includes an optional online distance learning

degree. Their degrees include an MA in Theology, Pastoral Ministry, and Religious Education).

National Conference for Catechetical Leadership (NCCL) Membership – This Is for All Catechetical Leaders

Join NCCL and receive CL (Catechetical Leader) Magazine, CL Weekly every Monday, discounts on resources, and information on the national conference and regional workshops! The cost of an individual regional membership to NCCL is only \$65. This is only \$5.42 a month. Use the Mohr Scholarship Fund for this opportunity! For further information about membership, check out the Web site: www.nccl.org

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Word on Fire: The Mystery of God Who God Is and Why He Matters

What do we really mean by "God?"

Atheism is on the rise. Skeptical thinkers like Richard Dawkins, Christopher Hitchens, and Sam Harris vigorously attack belief in God as irrational or, even worse, dangerous. The so-called New Atheism has attracted millions of young people thanks to bestselling books such as *The God Delusion* and *God Is Not Great*. How should Christians respond? How can we turn the tide of secularism and draw people back to God? In this new six-part film series and study program, Bishop Robert Barron reaches into our rich intellectual tradition to teach us how. Using the insights of St. Augustine, St. Thomas Aquinas, Pope Benedict XVI, he uncovers a clear yet sophisticated understanding of what we mean by "God." Who is God? And why does he matter? Watch this series and you'll not only learn the answers yourself, but also you'll discover how to share them with others – especially those who no longer believe. This film and study program are now ready to be ordered: <http://mysteryofgod.wordonfire.org/>

Parish Catechesis Question

Regarding promoting moral formation in Jesus Christ - What opportunities for parents, other adults, and teens do you give for moral formation?



**Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with a willing spirit.
Psalm 51:12, ESV**

**From the Youth & Young Adult
Ministry Office**

Kevin Losleben

klosleben@dnu.org

507-233-5327

<http://www.dnu.org/youth/>

ADORATION AND YOUTH

Let me pose a question: for those of us who work with you, what is our goal and how do we achieve it?

Let me pose an answer: our goal as youth workers is to bring youth to Jesus and we accomplish that by bringing them to Jesus.

It's really that simple. Perhaps the greatest "youth event" we can organize is a Holy Hour. We literally bring youth to Jesus. It doesn't have to be anything spectacular: exposition, "O salutaris," silence, "Tantum ergo," benediction, a hymn. That's it.

But that sounds so boring! Our youth live in a noisy, flashy world and they like noisy, flashy things!

Yes, yes they do. And Jesus entered this world on a silent night, he calmed storms, and he said, "Let the little children come to me." I think he knows what our youth *really* want.

Sure, there is a place for games and pizza in youth ministry; it gets them in the door. And once they're in, it's good to have fun. But youth can have fun just about anywhere.

"COR JESU"

And here comes the shameless plug for Jesus (if there ever was such a thing). "Cor Jesu" is "Heart of Jesus" in Latin, and it is an excellent introduction to the concept of a "Holy Hour." It is, essentially, adoration with contemporary praise music. It makes for a great youth event. Use it as a way to get your youth out of town, see the diocese, and have a personal encounter with Jesus. Use it as a kick-off to more regular and low-key Holy Hours at your home parish.

There is a description below of what this event is, as well as dates during the Year of Mercy. Bring your youth! Invite young adults! Come to Jesus!

"LET THE LITTLE CHILDREN COME TO ME" (MT 19:14)

Junior High Rally

April 24, 2016

Dassel-Cokato High School

Come hear the hilarious Nic Davidson talk about why he became Catholic. Sing along with the up-and-coming Catholic band: The Alex Street Band. Praise Jesus in adoration after Mass with Bishop LeVoir. Doors open at 1:00.

World Youth Day

Jul 20, 2016 - Aug 01, 2016

Krakow, Poland

PRICE REDUCTION: The cost of the trip has now been reduced to \$3,599! Sign up now!

Join the Diocese of New Ulm and Bishop LeVoir on their pilgrimage to Krakow, Poland, to visit Pope Francis. Items on the itinerary include a visit to Pope St. John Paul II's hometown, childhood vacation destination, Auschwitz, Jasna Gora monastery in the mountains, and many other exciting spots.

This trip is particularly designed for young adults, so if you know of any young adults please recommend to them to come to World Youth Day 2016. More information can be found at www.dnu.org/youth

Discipleship Camps

Young Women's: July 24-28, 2016

Young Men's: August 1-5, 2016

Schoenstatt-on-the-Lake, Sleepy Eye

Be sure to check out the promo videos at <http://www.dnu.org/young-womens-discipleship-camp> and <http://www.dnu.org/young-mens-discipleship-camp>.

"Cor Jesu" Holy Hour, Confession, and Praise Music for Youth and Young Adults

January 16 7-9 p.m. Cathedral, New Ulm
February 20 7-9 p.m. St. Andrew, Granite Falls
March 5 7-9 p.m. St. Eloi, Ghent

Please share the attached poster with your DRE's and Youth Ministers advertising our first "Cor Jesu" Holy Hour for youth and young adults, which will be Saturday, January 16 at 7 p.m. at the Cathedral in New Ulm (605 N State Street). Again, youth from all across the diocese are invited to each Cor Jesu. Please consider bringing a group. The event can be viewed at www.dnu.org/year-of-mercy.

Imagine over 200 young people kneeling together before Our Lord truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. A priest has just preached on the merciful love of God which is waiting for them in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. As a band plays contemplative praise music, each of these young people begins a dialogue with the Lord, opening their hearts to his mercy in a new way. One by one, they get up and wait in line for Confession. When they come back, their faces are radiant with new hope.

This is "Cor Jesu," an event for youth and young adults that began at the University of St. Thomas and has been introduced in dozens of universities and youth programs since its inception. During this Year of Mercy, the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, together with the Office of Worship, is bringing it to the Diocese of New Ulm!

Our first "Cor Jesu" event will be held at the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity on Saturday, January 16 from 7-9 p.m. The Holy Hour will begin with a brief sermon on God's merciful love, followed by Adoration with praise music, during which confessions will be offered. And, as at any successful youth event, it will end with a time of food and fellowship!

We encourage youth ministers to bring youth from parishes all across the diocese. Young adults are also invited.

If you are a priest who is planning to come, please contact Kevin at klosleben@dnu.org so that we can plan for you to hear confessions.



2016 Dates for Parish Catechetical Leaders (DREs) and Youth Ministers

Mon, Jan 11	PCL/YM Gathering	9:30 gather, mtg 10 am – 2:30 pm	St. Catherine, Redwood Falls
Sun, Jan 16	Cor Jesu	7-9 pm	Cathedral, New Ulm
Mon, Feb 8	PCL/YM Gathering	9:30 gather, mtg 10 am – 2:30 pm	St. Aloysius, Olivia
Sat, Feb 20	Cor Jesu	7-9 pm	St. Andrew, Granite Falls
Sat, Mar 5	Cor Jesu	7-9 pm	St. Eloi, Ghent
Mon, March 7	Bishop Lucker Lecture	7 pm	St. Catherine, Redwood Falls
Mon, March 14	PCL/YM Gathering	9:30 gather, mtg 10 am – 2:30 pm	St. Aloysius, Olivia
Thurs, March 17	Chrism Mass	7-8:30 pm	St. Mary, Sleepy Eye
Mon, April 11	PCL/YM Gathering	9:30 gather, mtg 10 am – 2:30 pm	St. Aloysius, Olivia
Sun, April 24	Junior High Rally	1-6:30 pm	Dassel-Cokato High School
Mon, May 9	PCL/Youth Minister Spring Fling	Noon – 4 pm	TBA
July 24-28	Young Women's Discipleship Camp	Sun 6 pm – Thurs noon	Schoenstatt on the Lake, Sleepy Eye
Aug 1-5	Young Men's Discipleship Camp	Mon 11 am – Fri 6 pm	Schoenstatt on the Lake, Sleepy Eye

Check out Riverbend TEC! For more details and an application check out the Web site: <http://riverbendtec.org>

Jan 16-18, 2016 - Winsted

March 5-7, 2016 - New Ulm

July 31 - Aug 2, 2016 - New Ulm