

DIOCESE OF WINONA-ROCHESTER

YOUTH MINISTRY AND FAITH FORMATION
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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AUGUST 2021



CATECHETICAL SUNDAY, SEP. 19

September 19, 2021 the church celebrates Catechetical Sunday.

Traditionally, catechists are formally commissioned for ministry to the community at Mass. It is also a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each baptized person plays in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. To order materials, click [HERE](#).

CONFIRMATION GUIDELINES AND COVID WAIVERS

If you do not have a copy of the recent Confirmation Guidelines for the Diocese of Winona-Rochester (from 2018), please see the Confirmation section of our website [HERE](#).

At this time, the Diocese will not be requiring a COVID-19 Waiver for the 2021-2022 year.

MINISTRY/ CATECHETICAL DAYS

Our diocese will be hosting "Building a Culture of Discipleship" Ministry Day on Aug. 26 (parish focus) and Catechetical Day on Aug. 27 (school focus). This is a hybrid event, so you are welcome to join us in person (Aug. 26 in Adrian and Aug. 27 in Rochester) or virtually. For more information or to register, click [HERE](#).

EUCHARISTIC MISSIONARIES



Our world is in need of a Eucharistic Revival. After about a year of the removal of the obligation to attend Sunday Mass, Catholics around the world, and especially in the US, are slow to come back to Mass. Prior to COVID, a 2019 Pew Research Center survey revealed that 31% of Catholics said they believe in the True Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. One can only imagine how those statistics look now.

In response to this epidemic, the USCCB has instituted a three year Eucharistic Revival beginning in the summer of 2022 where US dioceses will spend the first year rekindling love for the Eucharist by training and sending out Eucharistic Missionaries and creating experiences of encounter with our Lord in the Eucharist.

What does this mean for us in the Diocese of Winona-Rochester? Bishop Quinn has asked for youth to be trained as Eucharistic Missionaries, and youth are the leaven of our church. If you know of any young person who is on fire for Jesus in the Eucharist, please start praying for them. A goal this year is to recreate a Diocesan Youth Council, and their first commission will be training as Eucharistic Missionaries and brainstorming ways to bring a deeper love for the Eucharist to the church through various encounters. We will talk more about this at the first FIRE meeting on Sep. 9 (see below). For more information on the three year Eucharistic Revival, click [HERE](#).

VIRTUS/CIRCLE OF GRACE

VIRTUS adult safe environment training is now online and can be completed by visiting [HERE](#). They are to complete Protecting God's Children® Online Awareness Session 3.0 offered in English and Spanish. Please remember that BEFORE someone can work or volunteer with children they most complete the following:

1. Complete the VIRTUS online training: Protecting God's Children® Online Awareness Session 3.0
2. Sign the Code of Conduct. This can be done during the VIRTUS registration process.
3. Have a background check completed through S2Verify.

More information will follow, please do not hesitate to contact Mary Hamann at mhamann@dowr.org or call 507-858-1244 if you have any questions or concerns.



FIRE SCHEDULE

Thank you again for your FIRE Meeting feedback! I have put together a meeting schedule for 2021. As the year comes to a close, we will reevaluate how FIRE is going and make any necessary changes for the 2022 schedule. See our website at www.dowr.org/offices/faith-formation/lifelong-faith-formation for the schedule and to register for our first FIRE meeting on Thursday, Sep. 9 from 10am - 2pm at Pax Christi Catholic Church in Rochester. Catechists and volunteers are also welcome to come, so please share this information with your leaders.



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