

DIOCESE OF WINONA-ROCHESTER

YOUTH MINISTRY AND FAITH FORMATION
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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QUICK LINKS:

DECEMBER 2021



TEC 72 - MANKATO

TEC (Together Encounter Christ) is a diocesan spiritual movement for older teens and young adults. TEC begins with a retreat based on the Paschal Mystery with dynamic reflections, music, sacraments, Adoration, small group dialogue, and prayer. After the retreat, the TEC community evolves into a network of support that both reinforces parish involvement and personal spiritual growth. To register or for more information click [HERE](#).



CAMP SUMMIT GROUP REGISTRATION JAN. 18

Camp Summit Group Registration opens on Jan. 18. For Group Registration, each parish gets up to 20 spots for either Week 1 or Week 2. Between Jan. 18 and Mar. 14, whatever spots your parish reserved must be filled with an individual registration for the participant or it opens up again for other parishes after Mar. 14. Please see our website [HERE](#) for more information on Group Registration dates for Camp Summit.



STEUBENVILLE 2022

The Diocese of Winona-Rochester will be taking a diocesan group to Steubenville Rochester this summer. Your parish is also welcome to go individually apart from the larger diocesan group and still participate in the group t-shirt and picture for the Courier. Cost for the Diocesan Group is \$400 per person if registered by Mar. 30. Registration will be posted by Jan. 10 [HERE](#).

CATECHIST MOTU PROPRIO



On May 10, 2021, Pope Francis formally instituted the lay ministry of catechist on the feast of St. John of Avila, a doctor of the church and renowned catechist, through an apostolic letter issued "Motu Proprio" (which means on his own impulse).

The Second Vatican Council's *Ad Gentes* decree on the Church's Missionary Activity highlights the need for catechists as there are "so few clerics to evangelize such great multitudes," making the role of catechists "of the highest importance."

What does this mean for us? While we have relied on lay catechists for years in faith formation and youth ministry, this declaration hopefully gives us renewed vigor and opportunities for lay catechist formation.

The Diocese of Winona-Rochester is piloting a Catechist Certificate online training through the Augustine Institute and Formed.org for the first 100 catechists who register. This Catechist Certificate focuses mostly on formation of the catechist in the Catholic faith through a series of courses. If your parish would like more information in helping your catechists in their formation in this way, please contact me (Dana Petricka) at dpetricka.dowr.org. For more information on the Augustine Institute's Catechist Certificate click [HERE](#), and to view the full text of Pope Francis' Motu Proprio click [HERE](#).

SEXUAL IDENTITY FOLLOW UP

Thank you to all who attended the Sexual Identity Training back in November. We are still working on editing the content from the training and will have the recording available soon after Christmas if you missed the training. We are also working with Catholic Charities to put together a list of counselors who can walk with young people struggling in their identity and with mental health issues. Our upcoming FIRE Meeting in February (see below) will incorporate pastoral approaches in ministering to young people and families experiencing gender dysphoria, and we will also be offering online and in-person Theology of the Body training in the Spring. For now, if you have any questions at all, please let me know. Thank you for your commitment to the health and well being of our youth!



FIRE MEETING SCHEDULE SPRING 2022

The FIRE 2022 Meeting Schedule is now available [HERE](#). To better accommodate varying parish schedules, FIRE Meetings this spring will be held on the fourth Tuesday of each month from January through April. The format of our meetings will take a "teaching" approach in the morning and a "hand on" approach in the afternoon. For the hands on approach, we will put into action the topic of discussion from the morning session in small groups and/or individually. I hope to see you at FIRE in 2022, and have a blessed Advent, Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year!

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