MINI-MESSENGER Volume 44 Number 7, January 2016

The Official Newsletter of the Diocese of Davenport

Published Monthly Deacon David Montgomery, Director of Communication, Editor

COMMUNICATION OFFICE

Parish Apps for Mobile Devices: The Chancery is reviewing several parish applications for mobile devices including apps by: Our Sunday Visitor (Catholic Parish Apps), USCCB (Catholic Church), GuideOne (ChurchHub), Diocesan & Trinity Publications (MyParish), Liturgical Publications (Vibrant Parish), J.S. Paluch, (One Parish), and Parish Solutions (Catholic Parish & Church Mobile App). If you would like us to review additional apps, please send your suggestions to Robert Butterworth, butterworth@davenportdiocese.org by February 1. We plan to present a webinar for parishes in the near future to provide information about what we found.

DEACON FORMATION OFFICE

Inquiry for Deacon Formation Class VIII: The application and formation process for Deacon Class VIII will begin this fall. During this inquiry phase, those discerning a possible call to the diaconate begin a period of purposeful reflection on this calling.

To help them in this process, we will host "information days" in each of the six deaneries. The purpose of these inquiry sessions is to introduce men to the diaconate, explain our formation program, and answer any questions that they or their wives might have. The application forms will be distributed only to those who attend one of these sessions.

Once the written application is completed an interview with the Director of Deacon Formation will be arranged. If all is in order, an interview with the Admissions and Scrutinies Committee will then be scheduled.

Those who may be interested in the Diaconate are reminded that completing one year in our diocese's lay Ministry Formation Program is a prerequisite. For more information on the lay ministry program, please contact Mr. John Valenti in the Faith Formation Office (563-888-4244) or click here for more information: http://www.davenportdiocese.org/faithform/Lay%20Ministry%20MFP.htm.

The table below lists the dates, times, and locations for these Inquiry Sessions. Please call the office (563-888-4257) or e-mail the Director (agnoli@davenportdiocese.org) to reserve a place at one of these meetings.

September/Septiembre 2016	
17 (Sab/Sat) - Español/Spanish - 2-6 pm	St. Mary 216 N. Court Street, Ottumwa
18 (Sun/Dom) - English/Inglés - 1-5 pm	St. Mary 216 N. Court Street, Ottumwa
24 (Sat/Sab) - English/Inglés - 1-5 pm	Sacred Heart 1115 S. 8th Ave E., Newton
25 (Sun/Dom) - English/Inglés - 1-5pm	SS. Mary & Joseph Church (Holy Family Parish) 1111 Ave. E, Fort Madison
October/Octubre 2016	
22 (Sab/Sat) - Español/Spanish - 2-6 pm	St. Patrick 4330 St. Patrick Dr., Iowa City
23 (Sun/Dom) - English/Inglés - 1-5 pm	St. Patrick 4330 St. Patrick Dr., Iowa City
29 (Sat/Sab) - English/Inglés - 1-5 pm	Chancery 780 W. Central Park, Davenport
30 (Sun/Dom) - English/Inglés - 1-5 pm	St. Joseph 417 6th Ave., DeWitt
November/Noviembre 2016	
19 (Sab/Sat) - Español/Spanish - 2-6 pm	Chancery 780 W. Central Park, Davenport

For general information on formation for the diaconate, please see our Deacon Formation Page: http://www.davenportdiocese.org/dcn/dcnformation.htm. The link to the Class VIII webpage is: http://www.davenportdiocese.org/dcn/dcnclassviii.htm.

STEWARDSHIP OFFICE

Best Practices in Parish Stewardship—Tips from the Diocesan Stewardship Commission to effectively promote stewardship in the local community. Develop a parish prayer for stewardship. Paste a copy inside the cover of your missalette or music book. As a community, say the prayer before Mass. Print holy cards with the prayer plus appropriate parish or stewardship clip art. Invite parishioners to take a copy home for use during their personal prayer time.

SOCIAL ACTION OFFICE

January is Poverty Awareness Month: For resources and information go to http://www.usccb.org/about/catholic-campaign-for-human-development/poverty-education/poverty-awareness-month.cfm.

Social Ministry Gathering: January 23-26, Washington, DC. This year's theme is *Called to Live Mercy in Our Common Home.* Go to http://www.usccb.org/about/justice-peace-and-human-development/catholic-social-ministry-gathering/

CRS Rice Bowl Collection:

Kick-off breakfasts will be held Saturday, January 30 at St. Thomas More and Saturday, February 13 at St. Mary, Albia. All breakfasts will take place from 9-11 a.m. See attached flyer for complete information.

- We will share a simple rice bowl breakfast and information on how to make for a successful Rice Bowl campaign and collection.
- We will hear from CRS Rice Bowl grant recipients, folks across the Diocese who have used the 25% that stays here to support hunger programs.
- We encourage each parish to have either a one-person, or two-person Rice Bowl promoter team. And we will provide a Fair Trade shirt to these parish promoters.
- To register e-mail Esmeralda Guerrero, guerrero@davenportdiocese.org.

Collection begins Ash Wednesday, February 10. If your parish did not order or you need additional materials please contact Esmeralda Guerrero, 563-888-4210. Remember that 25% of the funds collected will remain in the Diocese to help organizations that fight hunger and poverty. Criteria for the 2016 CRS Rice Bowl Grants is available at http://www.davenportdiocese.org/socialaction/sacrsapplyingfororbgrant.htm. All grant applications are due May 31.

2016/2017 Internship for Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD): Applications are now being accepted until Feb. 15. Are you Catholic? Interested in fighting poverty? Then consider being an intern for CCHD. The Catholic Campaign for Human Development:

- Provides grants for self-help projects developed by grassroots groups working to address the root causes of poverty in their communities.
- Works to increase Catholics' awareness of poverty in the U.S.
- Educates about the Catholic social tradition.
- Builds bridges between poor and non-poor communities.

Intern must be able to attend the June 1-3 CCHD Training (expenses paid). For more information go to http://www.davenportdiocese.org/socialaction/sacchdinternship.htm or contact Loxi Hopkins, 563-888-4212 or hopkins@davenportdiocese.org. Please distribute the attached flyer to those who might be interested.

Project Rachel: Project Rachel is a confidential, post-abortion healing ministry of the Catholic Church offering hope and healing to women and men hurting from past abortions. Project Rachel staff understand the emotional pain that follows an abortion. Brochures are available by contacting Esmeralda Guerrero, guerrero@davenportdiocese.org. Local Helpline: 563-888-4107. E-Mail: projectrachel@diodav.org

There are two ways to support Project Rachel:

- Financial Contributions: Make check payable to the Diocese of Davenport. In the memo line write Project Rachel. Please mail check to: Diocese of Davenport, Project Rachel, 780 West Central Park Avenue Davenport, IA 52804-1901

- *Humble Angel Honey* remains a strong, visible way that parishes can help publicize Project Rachel and also provide ongoing financial support! Parishes have had Humble Angel Honey available after Mass, as when SCRIP or Fair Trade items have been available or at tables during parish festivals or other gatherings. If you or your parish group would *like to help locally with Humble Angel Honey please contact Esmeralda Guerrero, 563-888-4210.*

Social Action E-Newsletter: The Diocesan Social Action office has a newsletter filled with upcoming events and deadlines, calls to action and social justice news and views. You can view previous issues or subscribe to *The Two Feet* newsletter at http://bit.ly/1mY1moJ or send an e-mail to kerstena@diodav.org. Please feel free to submit any parish event for inclusion in our monthly newsletter.

Pecem in Terris Local Celebration: Join Bishop Amos celebrating the work of Thich Nhat Hanh, Saturday, April 2, 4 p.m. at St. Ambrose University, Christ the King Chapel. See the attached flyer for more information.

MINISTRY FORMATION PROGRAM

The first MFP class for 2016 will be on Saturday, Jan. 16 on the Sacrament of Confirmation. Our facilitator will be Don Boucher, Director of the Office of Faith Formation and lifelong advocate for Youth Ministry. All materials will be provided during this class and no advanced assignments are due. Please join us at the Chancery in Davenport from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Lunch will be provided. For questions and to RSVP by Jan. 13 please contact John Valenti, valenti@davenportdiocese.org, 563-888-4244.

Basic Schedule

	1/16/16: **Confirmation**, Don Boucher
2/20/16: **Reconciliation/Anointing**, Fr. Paul Appel	3/19/16: **Eucharist I**, Dr. Corrine Winter
4/16/16: **Eucharist II**, Dr. Corrine Winter	5/21/16: **Cultural Diversity**, Miguel Moreno & Guest
6/16/16: **Matrimony**, Dc. Frank & Marianne Agnoli	7/16/16: **Holy Orders**, Bishop Amos, Fr. Thom Hennen & Deacon David Montgomery
8/20/16: **Personal/Pastoral**, IlaMae Hanisch	9/17/16: **Catholicism**, Dr. Corrine Winter
10/8/16: **Commissioning Liturgy**, Location TBA	

On-Site Format: All courses held at the Diocese of Davenport, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. **DVD/YouTube Format:** The order of courses is as stated above; however each group will determine its monthly meeting time. **Application form** and additional information may be found on the diocesan website, www.davenportdiocese.org (Chancery>Faith Formation>Lay Ministry>MFP Document Links). For information regarding the courses or the Ministry Formation Program contact John Valenti, valenti@davenportdiocese.org or 563-888-4244.

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY

Marriage & Family Enrichment Pilot Project: The Diocese of Davenport in coordination with John Bosio (author of *Happy Together: The Catholic Blueprint for a Loving Marriage* and *Blessed is Marriage: A Guide to the Beatitudes for Catholic Couples)* is inviting parishes in the diocese to pilot a new enrichment program: ***Four Dates for Catholic Couples – the Virtues***. This innovative program will be made available free of charge to any parish participating in the Spring Pilot and has the potential of reaching not only the couples in your parish attending the four dates, but also those in the pews and beyond. Please contact Marianne Agnoli at 563-888-4242 or agnolim@davenportdiocese.org for more details concerning this enriching opportunity for your parish.

Spanish-Speaking Sponsor Couple Training Workshop: Saturday, March 5, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at the Chancery in Davenport. Juan and Rita Guerra will offer instruction to Spanish-speaking couples willing to serve as Sponsor Couples in their parishes. For more information (in English) contact Marianne Agnoli: agnolim@davenportdiocese.org. For more information (in Spanish) contact Miguel Moreno: moreno@davenportdiocese.org.

Entrenamiento para la preparación de Matrimonios en Español: Juan y Rita Guerra ofrecerán instrucción en español a todas las parejas interesadas en servir como instructores en sus parroquias. El entrenamiento será el sábado 5 de marzo del 2016 de 9:00am a 4:00pm en la Cancillería en Davenport. Para información en inglés contacte a Marianne Agnoli: agnolim@davenportdiocese.org . Para información en español contacte a Miguel Moreno: moreno@davenportdiocese.org .

Marriage and Parenting Resource: Attached is the January issue of "Marriage Moments and Parenting Pointers." These may be used in parish bulletins or as links on parish websites.

Marriage Preparation:
The Diocese of Davenport offers several marriage preparation program formats: Sponsor Couple (through your parish), One-day, Weekend (two-day), and Online (under special circumstances-with parish approval).

Sponsor Couple: It is preferred that those preparing for marriage meet with a trained parish Sponsor Couple. Contact Marianne Agnoli at agnolim@davenportdiocese.org if you would like to schedule a training for married couples in your parish to serve in this important ministry to couples preparing for marriage.

Weekend and One-day:

January 30, 2016: Bettendorf, St. John Vianney, registration *deadline is January 22*

February 27, 2016: Bettendorf, St. John Vianney, registration *deadline is February 19*

April 23-24, 2016: Williamsburg, St. Mary, registration *deadline is April 15*

August 6-7, 2016: Mt. Pleasant, St. Alphonsus, registration *deadline is July 29*

The current fee is $125 per couple and is now also payable by credit card/PayPal. Please note that this fee will increase to $150 for registrations received after July 1, 2016.

The registration form and more information can be found on the diocesan website at http://www.davenportdiocese.org/faithform/Marriage%20and%20Family.htm. If you have questions contact Barb Butterworth, 563-888-4240, butterworthb@davenportdiocese.org.

Online: Go to http://www.marriageministries.com/courses/catholic-marriage-prep-class/. – to be used only under special circumstance with parish approval.

Natural Family Planning Links:

Billings Ovulation Method NFP course is available on line at http://learnnfponline.com. A certificate of completion will be issued.

Couple to Couple League (Sympto-thermal) Method offers the *CCL Home Study Course* for those couples who do not have a local CCL Teaching Couple, or for those whose schedule prevents them from attending local instructions. Couples will receive the same materials as those attending class, plus access to a professional chart until couples are confident in their method skills. To order the "Kit" version call 800-745-8252 or order on line: http://ccli.org/productsservices/nfp-instruction/home-study-course.php.

Engaged couples are encouraged to begin NFP instruction at least four to six months prior to the wedding date.

Additional NFP contacts information can be found on the diocesan website, http://www.davenportdiocese.org/faithform/Marriage%20and%20Family.htm

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN

To report child abuse contact: Iowa Department of Human Services Child Abuse Hotline: 800-362-2178 and if it involves clergy or church personnel also notify Alicia Owens, Victim Assistance Coordinator: 563-349-5002, vac@diodav.org or PO Box 232, Bettendorf, IA 52722-0004.

IOWA CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE

Faith for the Journey, the 4th annual Iowa Catholic Men's Conference will be held March 5 at St. Francis of Assisi in West Des Moines. Join Bishop Pates and hundreds of Men of Christian Faith as we share our Journey of Faith. Nationally known and locally known speakers will challenge us and encourage us to be strong in our faith and to lead our families. Fee $25 before Feb. 8; $35 thereafter. See the attached flyer and to register and for more information go to http://iowacatholicmensconference.com.

OUR LADY OF THE PRAIRIE RETREAT, WHEATLAND

To register contact: 563-336-8414 or olpretreat@gmail.com. All programs include a delicious homemade meal prepared with local and organic ingredients. To learn more about Our Lady of the Prairie Retreat visit www.chmiowa.org.

Come to the Quiet: The Gift of Mercy: Thurs, January 21 | 9:30am – 3:30pm. We begin our first 2016 Come to the Quiet with reflection on the gift of mercy. What does it mean to see with the eyes of mercy? Fee: $20. Kathleen Storms, SSND

Essential Oils for Healing: Thurs, January 28 | 9:30am – 3:30pm. Through an integrative approach, experience healing for the mental, physical, emotional and spiritual aspects of life. Experience the potential of oils for relaxation, rejuvenation and restoration. Fee: $30. Cynthia Huffman and Judy Nyquist

The Second Step of Mercy: A Men's Retreat: January 29 – 31 | Fri, 5pm – Sun, 10am. The first step of mercy is God's love for us. God initiates mercy. The second step is our response to God's mercy - recognition, acceptance, gratitude and transformation. This retreat will focus on this second step, especially on recognizing and accepting God's mercy in our lives. Fee: $125. Fr. Michael Schaab

Come to the Quiet: The Gift of Hope: Tues, February 16 | 9:30am – 3:30pm. The gift of hope keeps us going during both difficult times and ordinary times. With hope in our hearts, we truly believe that all will be well and all good things will come in God's time. Fee: $20. Kathleen Storms, SSND

Lenten Taize' Vigil Service: Wed, February 24 | 6:30pm. Taize is an ecumenical movement, drawing Christians of all denominations together in unified and compassionate prayer. All people of faith are invited to participate. Pre-registration encouraged. No fee.

BENET HOUSE RETREAT CENTER/ST. MARY MONASTERY, ROCK ISLAND, IL

Contact Sr. Jackie Walsh, OSB at 309-283-2108, retreats@smmsisters.org or online at www.smmisters.org/retreats/retreats-and-programs to register for programs mentioned below.

Silent Directed Retreat: "The Lord Delights in You" (Isaiah 62:4): Sun., Jan. 17 (Check-in: 4-6:30 pm; Conference: 7 pm)-Wed. Jan. 20, 4 pm. Register now for this popular retreat which fills early. You will receive personal time with a spiritual director. In addition to daily Eucharist, there will be opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Centering Prayer, personal prayer, silence, rest, prayer with the Benedictines and walking the grounds. Spiritual Directors: Sr. Margaret Murphy, OSB; Sr. Mary Schmidt, OSB; Toni Petersen; Fr. Mark DeSutter. Fee: $325. Commuter fee: $225, includes all lunches and dinners.

Young Adult 24-Hour Retreat: Fri., Jan. 22, 7 pm (Check-in: 6:30-6:45 pm) - Sat., Jan. 23, 7 pm. The Davenport Diocese Theology on Tap planning team is sponsoring a 24-hour retreat for young adults in their 20s and 30s. The theme is to be determined. Call and express your interest in attending and details will be available. Facilitators: Young adult planning team. Fee: $125 (private room), $118 (shared room). Commuter fee: $65, includes lunch & dinner.

Catholic Sister for a Day: Jan. 23-24, Sat., 9am to Sun., 1pm. Experience life as a Benedictine Sister with other single Catholic women 18-50 years old. Enjoy prayer, meals and conversation with Sisters. Join the Benedictines as they serve God with personal and communal prayer and hear about the process of discernment and Benedictine life. Join us and take the step you need to discover whether God is calling you to religious life. Fee: There is no cost; you are our guest! For information contact Sr. Stefanie MacDonald, OSB (309) 283-2300 or vocation@smmsisters.org.

Girls Be a Catholic Sister for a Day: Feb. 6, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm. Attention girls entering 5th - 8th grades: Spend a fun-filled day at St. Mary Monastery. This great day includes meeting our sisters, prayers, arts and crafts, games, friends and food. You are sure to enjoy this day! Meet new friends and learn how wonderful a life focused on God can be! Fee: There is no cost; you are our guest! For information contact Sr. Stefanie MacDonald, OSB (309) 283-2300 or vocation@smmsisters.org.

Valentine's Evening: Marriage - Drawing Closer to God: Fri., Feb. 12, 6:30–9:30 pm. What if God designed marriage to make us holy, more than to make us happy? Come learn more about how your marriage can become a doorway to a closer walk with God, and a light to the world around you. Facilitators: Bob and Jan Gull.; Register and pay in full by Jan. 12: $25/couple; Registration after Jan. 12: $30/couple. Couples may stay overnight at Benet House for an additional $65.

Catholic Princess Retreat: Sat., Feb. 20, 9am – 3pm. The retreat is designed to instill in girls from kindergarten - 4th grade a sense of their dignity as daughters of the King, and to remind them of their beauty and honor as heirs to the Kingdom of God. The retreat will teach the girls that every person is made in the image and likeness of God, with a unique personal beauty. Fee: There is no cost; you are our guest! For information contact Sr. Stefanie MacDonald, OSB (309) 283-2300 or vocation@smmsisters.org.

Men's Retreat: This is my Commandment: Love One Another: Fri., Mar. 18, (Check-in: 6:30-6:45 pm; Conference: 7 pm) 7 pm-Sun., Mar. 20, 12 pm. Part of our faith journey is discovering how to put into practice John 15:13, "A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends." Our discussions will investigate the Lord's command. Presenter: Rev. Michael Schaab. Fee: Register and pay in full by Feb. 18: $200 (private room), $185 (shared room). Registrations after Feb.18: $210 (private room), $195 (shared room). Commuter fee: $130, includes lunch, dinner and brunch.

SHALOM SPIRITUALTY CENTER, DUBUQUE

To register call 563-582-3592 or send check payable to Shalom Spirituality Center with your contact information to: 1001 Davis St., Dubuque, IA 52001. www.shalomretreats.org, info@shalomretreats.org

Writing Life Stories: January 26, 2pm. The first in a four-part series. Designed to remember and record life stories 1) for the fun of it, 2) for the enjoyment of posterity, and 3) to reflect on what has shaped one's life thus far, the series offers direction and tips for writing life stories. This writing is different from journaling and does not constitute an entire autobiography, although the writing is autobiographical in nature. It is do-able by anyone, with or without writing experience. Anyone who can tell a story can write a story. Guaranteed to be enjoyable — and a little work! $40 offering for the 4-session series. Must register by January 21 to attend.

A Choice Beyond Stress For Retirement: January 30, 9am to 5pm. Are you an employee in your workplace or retired? Do you feel appreciated and valued for your contributions, skills, and wisdom? We will examine generational stress and reframing stereotypical viewpoints to look at the freedom and creativity of a lifestyle change. This workshop will offer a variety of resources for our personal affirmation and social support including: spiritual insights, mental will power tips, and monastic wisdom and guidance for personal tranquility. $40 offering to attend (includes lunch and snacks). Must register by January 26 to attend.

To support the ministry of your parish, school and the diocese these groups automatically receive the *Mini-Messenger*:

Deacons	Diocesan Corporate Board	Youth Ministers	Pastoral Associates	Directors/Coordinators of Faith Formation
Parishes	Catholic Foundation Board	Sisters	RCIA Parish Contacts	Diocesan Liturgical Commission
Priests	Parish Lay Directors	Bookkeepers	Diocesan Board of Education	Diocesan Planning Commission
Seminarians	Diocesan Pastoral Council	Principals	Parish Life Coordinators	

Other interested persons are welcome to subscribe. If you have questions regarding your subscription contact Laurie Hoefling, hoefling@davenportdiocese.org.

2016 Rice Bowl Breakfast

Rice Bowl Kick-off breakfasts have led to record breaking collections. In 2015 for a second consecutive year, the CRS Rice Bowl collection broke records in our Diocese. Parishes in the diocese raised a total of $84,353 in 2015, up from $64,386 in 2014 and $53,831 in 2013.

At this breakfast we:

- will share a simple rice bowl breakfast and information on how to make for a successful Rice Bowl campaign and collection.
- will hear from CRS Rice Bowl grant recipients, folks across the Diocese who have used the 25% that stays here to support hunger programs.

From the funds collected 75% will go to support the many international development programs that CRS oversees in 100 countries around the world. 25% stays in the Diocese to fund hunger fighting projects in communities all across our 22 counties.

We encourage each parish to have either one person or a two-person team attend one of the two breakfasts. We will provide Fair Trade shirts to these parish promoters.

In order to help our host parishes and make sure they have enough food please RSVP as soon as possible and provide us with T-shirt size.

Saturday, January 30, 2016

St. Thomas More Church

9:00-11:00 a.m.

3000 12th Avenue, Coralville

Saturday, February 13, 2016

St. Mary Church

9:00-11:00 a.m.

730 Benton Avenue W., Albia

RSVP to Esmeralda Guerrero

guerrero@davenportdiocese.org

Catholic Campaign for Human Development Diocesan Internship

Are you Catholic? Interested in fighting poverty?

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD):

1) Provides grants to self-help projects developed by grassroots groups of empowered poor persons who are working to address the root causes of poverty in their communities.

2) Works to increase Catholics' awareness of poverty in the U.S., educates about Catholic social tradition, and builds bridges between poor and non-poor communities.

For more information, contact:

Loxi Hopkins
Diocese of Davenport
780 W. Central Park Ave.
Davenport, IA 52804
563-888-4212
hopkins@davenportdiocese.org

Application deadline is February 15, 2016

Who? Any U.S. Catholic with an interest in solidarity building, participation of the poor, and Catholic Social Teaching. Spanish-speaking preferred but not necessary.

What? Intern will work with Quad Cities Interfaith, Davenport or Center for Worker Justice, Iowa City, two local CCHD funded groups. Tasks will vary but may include: parish education, training and outreach, letter and article writing, research, and developing relationships with community organizations. The internship is 16-20 flexible hours per week for 24 weeks during the school year paid at $12.00/hour.

Rachel Dunlap intern at Quad Cities. Interfaith. Photo was taken at the 2015 CCHD Kick – off breakfasts at the Diocese of Davenport 2015/2016 CCHD Intern

When? 2016/2017 school year. Intern must be able to attend the May 27-29, 2016 CCHD Training. (Expenses paid).

Where to apply: Diocese of Davenport,

http://www.davenportdiocese.org/socialaction/sacchdinternship.htm

HELPING PEOPLE HELP THEMSELVES
CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

An Invitation to Attend the Local Celebration

Awarding of the 2015 Pacem in Terris Peace and Freedom Award

Join Bishop Martin Amos to
celebrate the work of Thich Nhat Hanh
Saturday, April 2, 2016, 4 P.M.
St. Ambrose University
Christ the King Chapel
518 W. Locust Street, Davenport, Iowa

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

The recipient is Thich Nhat Hanh: teacher, author, peace activist.

He was born Oct. 11, 1926, in central Vietnam and joined a Zen monastery at age 16, studied Buddhism as a novice, and was ordained a monk in 1949.

In 1960, he founded the School of Youth for Social Services, a grassroots relief organization that rebuilt bombed villages, established schools and medical centers and resettled families left homeless during the Vietnam War.

He spoke with many people and groups about peace at home and abroad, including American Civil Rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr.

King nominated Thich Nhat Hanh, known as "Thay" (or teacher) for the Nobel Peace Prize in 1967.

Among his efforts to promote nonviolent solutions to problems, Thay urged the United States to withdraw from Vietnam.

He led peace walks in 2005 and 2007 to address racial tension in Los Angeles and continued his peacemaking efforts until his recent illness.

Photo credit: Ron Forster

Bishop Martin Amos, from the Diocese of Davenport traveled to Deer Park Monastery in California to present the award on October 31, 2015 to Sister Chan Khong and Brother Phap Dang. They accepted the award on behalf of Thich Nhat Hanh who is recovering from a stroke.

Learn more: http://plumvillage.org/news/thich-nhat-hanh-receives-the-pacem-in-terris-peace-and-freedom-award/

Previous award recipients include Martin Luther King, Jr.; Dorothy Day; Mother Teresa; Archbishop Desmond Tutu; Eileen Egan; and Cesar Chávez, Daniel Berrigan, SJ.

Award co-sponsors: Diocese of Davenport, St. Ambrose University, Augustana College, The Catholic Messenger, Churches United of the Quad City Area, Muslim Community of the Quad Cities, Jewish Federation of the Quad Cities, Quad Cities Interfaith, Congregation of the Humility of Mary, Sisters of St. Benedict, Sisters of St. Francis (Dubuque, Iowa), Sisters of St. Francis (Clinton, Iowa).

Marriage Moments & Parenting Pointers
January 2016

FOR MORE extended marriage and parenting articles, plus archived Marriage Moments and Parenting Pointers, go to: www.SusanVogt.net***BLOG:** *Living Lightly.* www.SusanVogt.net/blog

TWITTER: @Vogt_Susan ***EDUCATORS, LEADERS, & MINISTERS:** You are welcome to reprint these MM's and PP's in bulletins, newsletters, and on your website with proper credit, (By Susan Vogt, www.SusanVogt.net). When used on a website, please also link to my website: www.SusanVogt.net

MARRIAGE MOMENTS

657. Jan. 4: Epiphany: The 3 Magi (kings or wise men) recognized power in the unlikely person of a baby. Indeed it is wisdom that helps us see the Godliness within the ordinary people in our lives. Our beloved may seem pretty ordinary today. Look for the Godliness within.

658. Jan. 11: *I'm very neat. My wife is messy. I cured myself from my annoyance with her by imagining that she had died and then asking myself, "If you could bring her back to life but she'd still be messy, would you still want her back?" "Yes, for sure!" It cured me. Whenever I get annoyed with her mess, I rerun the script.* (Sam Bradley) This could work with many annoyances.

659. Jan. 18: Spiritual Gifts include: wisdom, knowledge, faith, healing, accomplishments, prophecy, good judgement, communication skills, understanding... (1 Cor 12:4-11) Which of these gifts is your beloved especially good at?

660. Jan. 25: Does a typical date night in your marriage start with, "What do you want to do tonight?" "I don't know. What do you want to do?" "I don't know..." Repeat. Try something besides a dinner and a movie. Google Making Love On A Budget for ideas.

PARENTING POINTERS

657. Jan. 1: New Year's Day: Consider making a "clean break" with the start of the new year. Ask if everyone in the family would be willing to clean one space - a drawer, a shelf, a toy box? Start with taking everything out. Then put back only those items you really want. Give away or throw away the rest. See my January 1 blog, The Beauty of Empty for ideas.

658. Jan. 8: "You are my beloved child; with you I am well pleased." (Luke 3:22) Such words are music to a child's ears. Find an authentic way to say this to your own child today.

659. Jan. 15: "How, in this materialistic, competitive world, can I raise kind children?" ...Begin by being a kind adult. When your child sees you go the extra mile to help a friend, carry someone's groceries, or invite people in to your life who aren't exactly like you, your child will see loving kindness as the natural way to live." (Mimi Doe)

660. Jan. 22: The body is one, though it has many parts. (1 Cor 12:12) Each part of our body is important and connected. So too, is each member of the human family. Remember today the value of each life, born/unborn, neighbor/refugee, friend - even enemy. Let us march to protect all human lives.

661. Jan. 29: It's cold outside. Have a memory party inside. Pull out old photographs and enjoy. Maybe even organize those loose photos.

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Iowa Catholic Men's Conference, March 5th, 2016

Faith for the Journey

I believe

Guided by the Four Pillars of Conversion, Reconciliation, Discipleship, and Evangelization, the Iowa Catholic Men's Conference is dedicated to building faithful disciples of Jesus Christ.

THE DETAILS

COST: $25 Early Bird. - $35 after Feb 8th

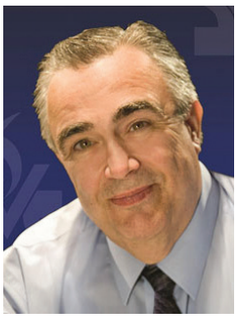
DATE: March 5, 2016

TIME: 8:30am - 4:00pm

PLACE: St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church
7075 Ashworth Rd,
West Des Moines, IA 50266

Be Inspired...

We are excited to announce our four great speakers:



Al Kresta

from "Kresta in the Afternoon" as heard on Catholic Radio

Al Kresta is a broadcaster, journalist and author who is, first of all, a missionary.

He is President and CEO of Ave Maria Radio and host of "Kresta in the Afternoon." He draws upon his unique faith background to create what is, arguably, the most fascinating — and most spiritually constructive — talk radio program on the radio today.

Dr. Dan McGuire

Professor and Author

Husband and father of eight. Prior to becoming a theology professor, he served as an infantry officer in the Marines.

He holds a Doctorate in Systematic Theology from Marquette University and a Masters of Theological Studies Degree from the University of Dallas. His particular interest is in Fundamental Theology—particularly helping Catholics rediscover the underpinnings of the faith.

Jim Blackburn

Catholic Apologist, Author, and Speaker

He holds a Masters Degree in Theology from John Paul the Great Catholic University and is the author of several books.

Jim supervised the Q&A department during his tenure with Catholic Answers where he has also contributed dozens of articles to Catholic Answers Magazine as well as been a regular guest on the Catholic Answers Live radio program for more than ten years.

John Crudele

Catholic Leader, Author, and Speaker

John has the uncanny ability to connect with all ages and is known as a speaker and author who relates to his audience in a very personal and profound way.

Founder of Partnership for Youth, founding partner and coach with the John Maxwell Team, co-author of "Making Sense of Adolescence," and a contributing author to the "Teen Power" series. His message … "The Courage to Connect: Being a Catholic Man in a Secular World."

Seating is limited. Get your tickets today.

www.iowacatholicmensconference.com