Dear Catechetical leaders:

Everyday I am reminded of the many blessings God sends our way; from the moments of joy to the moments of healing. We were filled with that joy to see so many of you at the Healing the Body of Christ Women's Conference at Santa Cruz. As we gathered with friends or made new ones, we were reminded how great is God's love. I am currently in Europe with my husband and adult children visiting family. This has been a true blessing that I will always cherish! Please know I am praying for all of you and your families.

- Sharon K. Perkins, Office of Evangelization, Catechesis, and Family Life

25th Anniversary of the Promulgation of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*

Gustavo Rodriguez, Associate Director for Catechesis

As we get closer to celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the promulgation of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* on October 11, 2017, I invite you to take some time to cherish this wonderful document and learn about its development. There was an incredible amount of time and dedication taken by so many for it to become an essential source of reference and guidance in sharing our faith and expressing what we believe and teach. In fact, we have a copy in our office of the original manuscript that was sent out to all the bishops of the different dioceses and archdioceses for review.

We are all called share the good news as missionary disciples and to teach the doctrine of the church with love and compassion. I would like to share with you a bit of the history of the development of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. The USCCB has a section on its development and even a very informative timeline. I have taken a few paragraphs form this website to share with you.

"Until the second half of the twentieth century, for millions of Catholics in the United States the word catechism meant the *Baltimore Catechism*, which originated at the Third Plenary Council of Baltimore in 1884 when the bishops of the United States decided to publish a national catechism. The *Baltimore Catechism* contained 421 questions and answers in thirty-seven chapters and gave unity to the teaching and understanding of the faith for millions of American Catholics. Its impact was felt right up to the dawn of the Second Vatican Council in 1962."
At that time, Saint John XXIII articulated a vision for the Fathers of the Second Vatican Council that charged them to guard and present more effectively the deposit of Christian doctrine in order to make it more accessible to the Christian faithful and all people of goodwill in the contemporary world. Eventually, it became clear that the development of a new universal catechism would be beneficial, especially since the Church has grown and the world has changed significantly since 1566.

In 1985, at a synod of bishops in Rome convened to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the conclusion of the Second Vatican Council, a proposal to develop a universal catechism for the Catholic Church was made and accepted. The outcome was the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, first published in 1992, a new edition with some modifications was released in 1997.

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* is arranged in four parts:

- The Profession of Faith
- The Celebration of the Christian Mystery
- Life in Christ
- Christian Prayer

The content of the Catechism is faithful to Apostolic Tradition, Scripture and the Magisterium. It incorporates the heritage of the Doctors, Fathers, and Saints of the Church and illuminates with the light of faith, contemporary situations, problems and questions."

For more information, visit the USCCB website at:

http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/what-we-believe/catechism/index.cfm
October 13, 2017: 100 Years, Our Lady of Fatima

The 100 Years of Our Lady of Fatima retreat will be held at Cedarbrake Retreat Center in Belton Oct. 13 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. In the spring of 1917, three children reported a vision of a beautiful lady in Fatima, Portugal. The last time the Blessed Mother appeared to them was Oct. 13, 1917. Her message continues to be one of prayer; especially, praying the rosary for peace. Brian Egan, Beverly Collin and Deacon Klaus Adam will lead the day of prayer in honor of the 100th anniversary of Fatima. The cost is $40 and includes lunch. Click here to register.

October 21, 2017: Sanación a través del corazón del Padre

Sanación a través del corazón del Padre” se realizará en el Centro Católico de Retiros Cedarbrake en Belton, TX, el 21 de octubre de 9 a.m. a 2:30 p.m. El enfoque de la reunión estará en nuestra identidad como amados de Dios y en las heridas que nos impiden vivir esa identidad. El Padre Charlie Garza, pastor de St. Martin de Porres será el presentador. El costo es de $35 e incluye el almuerzo. Click here to register.

November 3, 2017: Nurturing the Pilgrim Heart

The Nurturing the Pilgrim Heart retreat will be held Nov. 3-5 at Cedarbrake Catholic Retreat Center in Belton. By our vocation as Christians, we are called to follow Jesus, to live as he lived, to love as he loved, to be part of the mission he inaugurated. Responding to that call takes us on a journey which will reconfigure our priorities and redirect our approach to life. It will transform our heart so we will find rest only in God. Incorporating the wisdom of Scripture and the insight of St. John of the Cross, this weekend retreat will focus on nurturing a pilgrim heart. The weekend will be led by Holy Cross Brother Joel Giallanza. The cost is $210 for a private room, $170 for a shared room and $95 for commuter. Click here to register.

November 16, 2017: Proverbs 3:5, Trust In the Lord with All Your Heart

The Proverbs 3:5 retreat will be held at Cedarbrake Catholic Retreat Center in Belton on Nov. 16 from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Proverbs 3:5 says, “Trust in the Lord with all your heart.” Trust requires humility, to be open like a child, to imitate Our Savior. Brian Egan, director at Cedarbrake, will lead this retreat day. The cost is $40 and includes lunch. Click here to register.

Eagle’s Wings Retreat Center

Tuesday, October 10, 2017: Strategically Planning for Spiritual Warfare

Do you have a desire to more fully understand the spiritual realm and the handiwork of heavenly angels and fallen demons? Join us as we unpack Sacred Scripture and Catholic Tradition to examine the choirs of angels and our ongoing battle with evil influences. We will address the necessity of focusing on Christ while remaining combat-ready with the Armor of God and our own individually-designed battle plans.” $35 per person - includes morning snacks and lunch. Call (512) 715-0017 to register.
FATIMA CENTENNIAL US TOUR FOR PEACE
DIocese OF AUSTIN

Dec. 6, 2017
St. Luke Catholic Church
2807 Oakdale,
Temple, TX 76502
(254) 773-1561

Dec. 7, 2017
St. Helen Catholic Church
2700 E. University Ave.
Georgetown, TX 78626
(512) 863-3041

Dec. 8, 2017
Feast of the Immaculate Conception
Saint Mary Cathedral
203 East 10th Street
Austin, TX 78701
(512) 476-6182

Dec. 9, 2017
St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church
2541 Earl Rudder Freeway South
College Station, TX 77845
(979) 693-6994

The world-famous international Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Fatima that has toured the U.S. for nearly two years as a nation-wide call to prayer and penance for peace in our nation will makes its way to the Diocese of Austin.

For mass times and detailed info
https://www.fatimatourforpeace.com
Fall workshops with Dr. Joseph White

Dr. White is a Clinical Psychologist, former Diocesan Director of Family Life, and a National Catechetical Consultant for Our Sunday Visitor

Involving Parents, Engaging Families
October 23, 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Diocesan Pastoral Center
Parents are the first and most important teachers of the faith, but it's often a challenge to get parents and families involved in parish and school faith formation. This session, presented by a child and family psychologist and former diocesan family life director, will discuss tested and effective ways to partner with parents and families and evangelize the domestic church.

Attention, Please!: Engaging Children and Teens in their Faith in a Culture of Distractions
November 6, 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Diocesan Pastoral Center
A particular challenge catechists face today is how to engage and maintain the attention of children during learning sessions. In an age of fast-moving electronic media, multi-tasking, and shorter attention spans, how can we help kids be tuned-in and involved with the Gospel? This session, presented by a veteran catechist and child psychologist, will discuss proven strategies for getting -- and keeping -- the attention of children in a group setting.

Certification credit will be given to attendees. These workshops can substitute for the Learning Theories / Learning Styles class or may count towards continued education credit hours. Registration is open—$15 per workshop.
To register, visit: http://www.austindiocese.org/basic-teachings-adult-formation-classes

2018 Basic Teachings at the Pastoral Center—English & Spanish Dates
(For weeklong session, see next page.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Saturday Summer Sessions</th>
<th>Fall Sessions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sacred Scripture</td>
<td>June 16, 2018</td>
<td>October 6, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creed</td>
<td>June 30, 2018</td>
<td>October 27, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liturgy &amp; Sacraments</td>
<td>July 14, 2018</td>
<td>November 10, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morality</td>
<td>July 28, 2018</td>
<td>December 1, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prayer &amp; Spirituality</td>
<td>August 11, 2018</td>
<td>December 15, 2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information visit:
http://www.austindiocese.org/basic-teachings-adult-formation-classes
# 2018 Summer Catechetical Certification Classes

Save-the-Dates! All classes at the Diocesan Pastoral Center.

*Registration will open in the spring.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Times</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 4-7, 2018 (M-Th)</td>
<td>Old Testament / Sacred Scripture</td>
<td>9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 11-14, 2018 (M-Th)</td>
<td>New Testament / Christology</td>
<td>9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 18-21, 2018 (M-Th)</td>
<td>Sacramental Theology</td>
<td>9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 25-28, 2018 (M-Th)</td>
<td>Catholic Social Teaching</td>
<td>9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 2, 2018 (Mon)</td>
<td>A Call to Collaborative Ministry</td>
<td>9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 3, 2018 (Tues)</td>
<td>Conflict Management</td>
<td>9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 4, 2018 (Wed)</td>
<td><strong>FOURTH OF JULY!!</strong></td>
<td>NO CLASS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 9, 2018 (Mon)</td>
<td>Introduction to Theology of the Body</td>
<td>9 a.m.-1 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 9, 2018 (Mon)</td>
<td>Reproduction &amp; Procreation</td>
<td>2-4 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 10, 2018 (Tues)</td>
<td>Advanced Theology of the Body</td>
<td>9 a.m.-4 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 11, 2018 (Wed)</td>
<td>Contemporary Issue of Concern in Human Sexual Morality</td>
<td>9 a.m.-4 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 12, 2018 (Thurs)</td>
<td>Christian Marriage and Celibacy</td>
<td>9 a.m.-1 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 12, 2018 (Thurs)</td>
<td>Methods and Resources—Catechesis on Human Love</td>
<td>2-4 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 16, 2018 (Mon)</td>
<td>Building Intercultural Competence in Ministry—Day 1</td>
<td>9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 17, 2018 (Tues)</td>
<td>Building Intercultural Competence in Ministry—Day 2</td>
<td>9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 18, 2018 (Wed)</td>
<td>National Directory for Catechesis</td>
<td>9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 19, 2018 (Thurs)</td>
<td>New Evangelization &amp; Catechesis</td>
<td>9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 23, 2018 (Mon)</td>
<td>Basic Teachings—Scripture</td>
<td>9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 24, 2018 (Tues)</td>
<td>Basic Teachings—Creed</td>
<td>9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 25, 2018 (Wed)</td>
<td>Basic Teachings—Liturgy &amp; Sacraments</td>
<td>9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 26, 2018 (Thurs)</td>
<td>Basic Teachings—Morality</td>
<td>9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 27, 2018 (Fri)</td>
<td>Basic Teachings—Prayer &amp; Spirituality</td>
<td>9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 30, 2018 (Mon)</td>
<td>Ecumenism</td>
<td>9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 31, 2018 (Tues)</td>
<td>Strategic Planning</td>
<td>9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## 2018 Spanish Summer Certification Classes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 7 &amp; 14, 2018 (Thurs)</td>
<td>Catechizing for a Just World</td>
<td>7-9 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 23, 2018 (Sat)</td>
<td>Introduction to Theology of the Body</td>
<td>9 a.m.-5 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 21 &amp; 28, 2018 (Thurs)</td>
<td>Principles of Adult Formation</td>
<td>7-9 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2017 Classes & Workshops

English & Spanish

♦ National Directory for Catechesis
  November 18: St. Anthony Parish in Bryan, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. (ENGLISH)
  October 28: Sacred Heart Parish in Austin, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. (SPANISH)

♦ New Evangelization & Catechesis
  October 21: Reicher Catholic High School in Waco, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. (ENGLISH)
  December 16: St. Anthony Parish in Bryan, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. (ENGLISH)
  November 11: Sacred Heart Parish in Austin, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. (SPANISH)

“Zoom Journey to DRE”
(offered online; formerly known as “Google Hangout”)
  Maintaining Professional Balance—Part 1: October 3 / Part 2: October 17
  Forming Ministerial Relationships—Part 1: November 14 / Part 2: November 28
  Parish Programming & Budgets—Part 1: December 5 / Part 2: December 12
  *Time for all online Zoom classes is 1-3 p.m.*

Visit our NEW website for more information:
http://www.austindiocese.org/basic-teachings-adult-formation-classes

RCIA Virtual Workshops

This excellent series is sponsored by the FDLC (Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions) and LTP (Liturgy Training Publications) in order to provide affordable and accessible formation to all clergy, catechists, RCIA Directors, all volunteer members of a parish team…indeed any member of the initiating community.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>PRESENTER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 11</td>
<td>Period of Purification and Enlightenment</td>
<td>Timothy Johnston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 24</td>
<td>Rites of Initiation and Reception</td>
<td>Rita Thiron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 7</td>
<td>Period of Mystagogia</td>
<td>Karen Kane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 14</td>
<td>National Statutes on the Catechumenate</td>
<td>Rita Thiron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 5</td>
<td>Preaching for the Rites</td>
<td>Fr. Jan Michael Joncas</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN for the rest of the series. Several important topics are fast approaching in the coming days and weeks so you will not want to miss them! Click to link below to register.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Essay Contest

The 2018 Dr. Martin Luther King Essay Contest is open to students in Grades 7-8 who are enrolled in Catholic Schools, Parish Religious Education programs, or Catholic Home Schools within the Diocese of Austin. Amazon Gift Cards (First Place - $100, Second Place - $ 75, Third Place - $ 50) will be awarded to the winning essay writers. The first place essay writer's program or institution will receive a $200 award.

Theme: “Followers of Christ: A Rich Legacy of Equality for All People.”
This theme not only draws on the lessons, teachings, and legacy of King, but also draws on the readings for the Second Sunday of Ordinary Time, particularly Christ's calling of the first disciples (John 1:35-42) and their subsequent transformation by Christ. How can we promote equality for everyone through love and service as King did?

Submission Deadline — Friday, November 17, 2017 at 5:00pm

For more information including required essay format and judging criteria, visit the Black Catholics website at: http://www.austindiocese.org/2018-dr-martin-luther-king-jr-essay-contest

Adult Confirmation

Adult Confirmation will be celebrated on Saturday, November 18, 2017, at 10:30 a.m. at Santa Cruz Catholic Church in Buda. Registration deadline is Monday, October 30. Please contact the Office of Worship if you have any questions about the celebration or registration at (512) 949-2429 or email liturgy@austindiocese.org.

Save the Date!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 9, 2017</td>
<td>“Made in the Image of God”—Sacramental Formation for Persons with Special Needs, at Diocesan Pastoral Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 23, 2017</td>
<td>Catechists Workshop with Dr. Joseph White at the Pastoral Center—Involving Parents, Engaging Families</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 6, 2017</td>
<td>Catechists Workshop with Dr. Joseph White at the Pastoral Center—Keeping Kids’ Attention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 9, 2017</td>
<td>Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration at Santa Cruz in Buda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 29, 2018</td>
<td>DRE Orientation Day at Diocesan Pastoral Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 10, 2018</td>
<td>DRE Day at Our Lady of Schoenstatt Shrine in Austin</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Deanery Meetings

**Austin North/Georgetown/RR:**
Thursday, November 9, 10 a.m.
St. Vincent de Paul, Austin
Thursday, March 1, 10 a.m.
Parish Evangelization Center
St. William, Round Rock
Thursday, May 10, 10 a.m.
St. Patrick, Hutto

**Austin South & Central:**
Monday, December 4, 10 a.m.
Location pending

**Waco Deanery:**
Tuesday, October 17, 6:30 p.m.
Location pending

**Temple/Killeen:**
Thursday, October 12, 4 p.m.
St. Mary, Temple

**Bastrop/Lockhart Deanery:**
Friday, October 20, 6:45 p.m.
Ascension, Bastrop

**Brenham/La Grange Deanery & Bryan/College Station:**
Monday, October 9, 6 p.m.
St. Mary, Caldwell

**San Marcos Deanery:**
Thursday, October 26, 10 a.m.
St. Mary, Wimberley

**Marble Falls/Lampasas:**
Friday, November 17, 10 a.m.
Eagle’s Wings Retreat Center

Happy Fall!