

## **LITURGY OFFICE**

The February 2025 issue of *LiturgyNotes* is attached, and available [here](#).

## **EVANGELIZATION OFFICE**

**The Good News(letter):** Check out the second edition of *The Good News(letter)*, [An introvert, evangelist, hair stylist walks into a salon, which can be read here](#). It is a great story about evangelization through everyday encounter. Also included is a video conversation unpacking Sherry Weddell's five thresholds of conversion. The next edition will be published on February 5 in anticipation of Lent and Triduum. You can [sign-up here](#) to receive future editions, watch the [promo video](#), and [learn more about](#) the publication.

## **STEWARDSHIP**

**Catholic Extension Society:** Continues to recognize the pivotal role of women as evangelizers, both historically and presently. The Mujer Valiente ("Valient Woman") Strategic Initiative gathers emerging and aspiring women leaders from across the country with the goal of creating a network of support and providing ongoing formation to them. The program begins with a three-day Spanish-language convening with pre-selected Latina leaders representing dozens of Extension dioceses. These leaders are of varying ages, educational backgrounds, and experiences. The main criterion for selecting participants is their love of the Catholic faith, their desire to deepen it, and their commitment to sharing it with others. The convening provides these women with theological lectures, communal prayer, reflection, discussion, and networking. In 2025, the conference will take place on campus in Miami, FL from June 4-7, and the convening is a collaborative effort by Catholic Extension Society and the Southeast Pastoral Institute (SEPI).

Following the convening, participants will be able to take synchronous online Spanish language courses and trainings that allow participants to grow as catechetical leaders and pastoral agents in their local parishes. The commitment is for one-year-and-a-half, with courses offered through one or several of Catholic Extension Society's university partners such as the University of Dallas, the University of Dayton, and others. The courses are designed for people of varying educational backgrounds and more details will be presented at the convening in Miami about these future educational opportunities.

Participants are accepted into the program with the support of their local diocese by recommendation of the Bishop. The cost of the program is fully covered through Catholic Extension Society and our funding partners. Please contact Jennifer Praet [praet@davenportdiocese.org](mailto:praet@davenportdiocese.org) or 563-888-4252 for more information or if interested in applying for this fully funded program.

## **SOCIAL MEDIA OFFICE**

**Social Media Workshop – Designing Graphics on Canva:** March 13, 11 a.m. Join us for a workshop on the basics of designing graphics within Canva. We will discuss colors, fonts, templates, and have some live demonstration. We will meet via Zoom for 60 minutes. Sign up at <https://www.davenportdiocese.org/social-media-workshops>.

## **COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE**

**Windows 10 End of Life:** October 14, 2025. Microsoft will discontinue support for Windows 10 and mark it as End of Life. At that time Microsoft will no longer patch or provide security updates for computers running Windows 10. Running Windows 10, after it reaches End of Life, will put your systems at risk for hacking and malware. Many software vendors also stop upgrading or supporting their software on systems once Microsoft ends support.

If your computer is older than 5 years old, it most likely will need to be replaced prior to Windows 10 End of Life. Newer computers running Windows 10 can generally be updated to Windows 11 for free using Windows Update. You are likely getting prompted to upgrade on a regular basis and should do so when possible.

To determine your current operating system type WinVer into the search field on your taskbar and press enter. A window will pop up showing your current operating system version. If it shows Windows 11 you are good to go. If not, you need to determine what processor you are running to determine compatibility.

The minimum requirement to upgrade to Windows 11 is an 8<sup>th</sup> generation processor or later.

To determine your processor: Click the start menu, Click the gear to open Settings, click System, and then click About at the bottom of the left column. If the computer does not have an 8<sup>th</sup> generation or higher processor you need to plan on replacing that system.

Please also keep in mind that Microsoft Office 2016 reaches end of life on that same day. If you are currently running an older version of Office you need to plan on upgrading to the current version. The current cost for Office 2024 LTSC is \$171 per computer.

## **FAITH FORMATION OFFICE**

**STEP Theology Online-Connecting the Catholic intellectual life to the life of the Church:** February 24, classes begin. The Diocese of Davenport has partnered with [STEP at the University of Notre Dame](#) to offer online formation for the people of the diocese. [Learn more about certificate offerings](#) through STEP which has 20 years experience of offering “satellite” intellectual formation. Take a look at a highlight of February’s attractive offerings:

- [Foundations of Catholic Belief](#) \*\*Great Beginner Course\*\*
- [Faith & Science: Origins & Belief](#)
- [In God’s Image: The Mystery of Creation](#)
- [Mary & Catholic Tradition](#)
- [And so many more!](#)

With the diocesan partnership, individuals from the Diocese of Davenport who enroll in a STEP course will receive a 50% discount on the standard course fee of \$99. If you have any questions or would like more information, please visit our [diocesan webpage](#) or contact [Trevor Pullinger](#).

**REGISTER NOW: Iowa Catholic Youth Conference 2025:** March 30. We are excited to announce that registration is now open for the 4th annual Iowa Catholic Youth Conference (ICYC) with the theme of LOST & FOUND which is for those in grades 6-8 and their parents. The event which is co-sponsored by the Archdiocese of Dubuque and the Diocese of Davenport will take place at St. Ludmila Parish in Cedar Rapids and will feature the energetic Catholic hip-hop artist and witness of faith **Connor Flanagan** (<https://www.connorflanagannmusic.com>). Cost is \$50 per person when you register by March 1<sup>st</sup> 2025! More details on registration can be found on our website (<http://www.davenportdiocese.org/icyc>). Please feel free to run this announcement in parish bulletins please see attached ICYC png flyer.

**Totus Tuus 2025: How to recruit a Missionary:** Now is primetime for recruiting Missionaries for this coming summer! As always personal connection and invitation makes all the difference! Say, “Hey, you’d make a great Totus Tuus Missionary!” See the attached “Totus-Tuus-Talking-Points-2025.pdf” document for more details and how to recruit! Inquiry and application requests come to Director of Faith Formation & Catechesis Coordinator [Trevor Pullinger](#) or visit our website for more details <https://www.davenportdiocese.org/totus-tuus>

**Catholic Family Summary Reports & Video Presentations:** For this year of Youth & Family Engagement many new concepts and initiatives have taken off at various levels and in various places. It is important to be updated with latest research through the National Community of Catechetical Leaders (NCCL). NCCL has developed multiple resources including free video presentations & white papers detailing the latest research on walking with young people and families which can be found here: <https://www.ncclcatholicfamilies.org/family-summit>

### **Marriage and Family**

**Marriage and Parenting Resource:** Check out the February issue of [Marriage Moments and Parenting Pointers](#). Please consider including this resource in your bulletin or as a link on your parish or school websites. Weekly [Eco-Tips](#) are also available for use in your parish or school communications.

**Celebrate National Marriage Week:** February 7-14, observance of National Marriage Week and February 9, observance of World Marriage Day are an opportunity to focus on building a culture of life and love that begins with supporting and promoting marriage and the family. The theme for 2025 is *"Marriage: Source of Hope, Spring of Renewal. Pursue a Lasting Love!"*

**Resources created by USCCB:**

- At-Home Couples' Retreat in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)
- Posters in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)
- Preaching Resource in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)
- [Lectio Divina Reflections](#) in English and Spanish

**The Marriage Initiative:** February 7-14 will host a livestream every night of National Marriage Week on the "8 Essentials of Lasting Love." All livestreams will be at 7:00 CST via their [YouTube channel](#). Couples can sign up to receive a special viewing link before the event on their [website](#).

**Additional Resources** can be found on For Your Marriage's [National Marriage Week](#) page and on the diocesan [Marriage Enrichment page](#). Contact [Marianne Agnoli](#) to discuss some more specific ways to support healthy Christian marriages within your particular parish or school community.

**Mini-Retreats for All Caregivers – Caring for others can leave little time to care for you:** It's a common challenge and it can lead to burnout. Join us for one of these special mini-retreats to learn how to better understand and nourish your emotional and spiritual needs. Discover unique techniques to manage stress, while care giving, and learn how stress sometimes can be a positive conduit for change, enabling you to thrive. There is no charge for to attend, however participants are asked to register for one of sessions by the deadlines indicated below:

- February 20, 1 p.m.-3 p.m. pm at Our Lady of Victory Church, Davenport  
[Register](#) by February, 14.
- March 30, 2 p.m.- 4:30 p.m. at St. Patrick Church, Iowa City  
[Register](#) by March 24.

See attached flyers or contact [Marianne Agnoli](#) or 563-888-4242 for more information.

**SAVE THE DATE – Spanish Language Sponsor Couple Training/Refresher:** March 22, 6-9 p.m. at St. Patrick Church, Iowa City. See attached flyer in Spanish. As our diocese continues to incorporate steps towards the establishment of a marriage catechumenate, new Sponsor Couples and experienced Sponsor Couples, are encouraged to attend an updated instruction. Please register couples in your parish for this training session by March 14, to allow sufficient time for them to receive the necessary instructional materials and complete the pre-training exercises. Contact [Deacon Angel Hernandez](#) to register for this training or to schedule an alternate training/refresher in your parish, cluster, or deanery.

**RESERVE LA FECHA – Capacitación/actualización para parejas patrocinadoras en español:** 22 de marzo, 6-9 p.m. en la iglesia St. Patrick, Iowa City. Vea el folleto adjunto en español. A medida que nuestra diócesis continúa incorporando pasos hacia el establecimiento de un catecumenado matrimonial, se anima a las parejas patrocinadoras nuevas y experimentadas a asistir a una instrucción actualizada. Registre a las parejas patrocinadoras potenciales en su parroquia para esta sesión de capacitación antes del 14 de marzo. Comuníquese con [Diaconó Angel Hernandez](#) para registrarse para esta capacitación o para programar una capacitación/actualización alternativa en su parroquia, grupo o decanato. Por favor, vea el folleto para más detalles.

## **SOCIAL ACTION OFFICE**

**Los Angeles Wildfire Relief:** [Catholic Charities USA](#) has created a wildfire relief fund to help. 100% of your gift will be sent where it's needed most!

**Catholic Charities USA**  
2050 Ballenger Ave, Suite 400  
Alexandria, VA 22314

**Diocese of Davenport**  
Los Angeles Wildfire Relief  
Attn: Finance Department  
780 West Central Park Avenue  
Davenport Iowa, 52804-1901

**CRS Rice Bowl Collection:** March 5. The collection begins on Ash Wednesday. Rice Bowl's Lenten program is an opportunity for families to join together as a community to participate in the Lenten practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. In 2025, we will journey to Guatemala, Nigeria, and Bangladesh. With Lent, we have 40 days of preparation. It's a time for prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, which culminates in the celebration of Easter. Free Lenten materials are available in English and Spanish. You can find all available resources at <https://www.crsricebowl.org> or use the [Rice Bowl Media Kit](#), which has resources you can use to promote the program this Lent in parish bulletins, on websites, and through other social media outlets.

Funds raised through the CRS Rice Bowl collection support development projects in nearly 100 countries overseas, and 25% of the funds stay in our diocese to support local hunger and poverty efforts. [Learn more here](#). Applications are due May 15. If you have questions regarding the materials, contact Esmeralda Guerrero at [guerrero@davenportdiocese.org](mailto:guerrero@davenportdiocese.org)

**Social Action Two Feet Newsletter:** Attached is the January issues. To subscribe or view previous issues, please go to: <https://www.davenportdiocese.org/two-feet-newsletter>.

**Catholic Elements of Immigration Reform:** As the discussion about immigration continues in Congress and the state legislature, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has published a resource called "[\*Catholic Elements of Immigration Reform\*](#)." See Attached.

**Diocesan Immigration Program:** December 12, the Immigration office celebrated its 50th anniversary. [Click here](#) to read more in the Catholic Messenger. The diocesan Immigration program is a non-profit program that provides immigration counseling to help reunite families split by immigration, assists immigrants in adjusting their immigration status, and advocates on their behalf. The immigration program focuses on family reunification immigration cases. [Click here](#) to learn more about the program. For better service, please call to schedule an appointment: direct line: 563-324-1912 ext. 4213, general phone: 563-324-1911, or Email: [torres@davenportdiocese.org](mailto:torres@davenportdiocese.org)

**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.

- Dedicated Helpline: [563-333-4107](tel:563-333-4107)
- Dedicated e-mail: [projectrachel@diodav.org](mailto:projectrachel@diodav.org)

#### **How to Promote:**

- Promote Project Rachel in your Parish bulletin
- Distribute the free brochure. "Peace Starts Here." contact the Office of Social Action at [guerrero@davenportdiocese.org](mailto:guerrero@davenportdiocese.org) to receive.
- On your parish website, add a link to the Project Rachel website
- Pray for women and men that have been affected by abortion
- Include weekly bulletin announcements
- Project Rachel; [Homily Considerations for Healing After Abortion](#)

**Income Tax Credit:** Low- and moderate-income workers may qualify for help from two federal tax benefits. The [Earned Income Tax Credit](#) (EITC) and the [Child Tax Credit](#) (CTC). Providing information about these two tax credits on your parish website and in your bulletin or using social media to spread the word could help many in your community. You can also encourage individuals and families to file their taxes through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. VITA offers free tax help for low-to-moderate-income people who cannot prepare their returns. Encourage parishioners who may need assistance to enter their ZIP code at <https://irs.treasury.gov/freetaxprep> to find the nearest site.

## February Dates to Remember

- February is Black History Month
- February 5 - [National Day of Prayer for the African and African American Family](#).
- February 8 - [International Day of Prayer and Awareness Against Human Trafficking](#) On this day, Catholics all over the world are encouraged to host or attend prayer services to create greater awareness against Human Trafficking.

**World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life:** February 2. In 1997, Pope Saint John Paul II instituted a day of prayer for women and men in consecrated life. This celebration is attached to the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on February 2. You can find more information/materials at: ([www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org)).

## **PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN**

To report child abuse, call the Iowa Attorney General Clergy Abuse hotline at 855-620-7000 (M-F, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.) to speak with a trained advocate, or the Iowa Department of Human Services Child Abuse Hotline: 800-362-2178. If it involves clergy or church personnel also notify Alicia Owens, Victim Assistance Coordinator: 563-349-5002, [vac@diodav.org](mailto:vac@diodav.org) or PO Box 232, Bettendorf, IA 52722-0004.

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

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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 Pastoral Council
Seminarians	Parish Life Coordinators	Principals		

Other interested persons are welcome to subscribe. If you have questions regarding your subscription contact Stephanie Schoel, [schoel@davenportdiocese.org](mailto:schoel@davenportdiocese.org)

## **BENET HOUSE RETREAT CENTER, ROCK ISLAND, IL**

[Go here to register](#), email [retreats@smmsisters.org](mailto:retreats@smmsisters.org) or call Sr. Jackie Walsh, OSB at 309-283-2108

- **Self-Compassion and the Cancer Journey:** (Onsite only) February 1, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. We know the experience of living with cancer is a life challenge. How do we sustain our hope, energy, and trust in the future? On this retreat day, there will be sharing of practical ways to nurture our self-compassion so we can live with a positive energy about ourselves and our journey of a 'new normal.' Retreat Leader: Sr. Bobbi Bussan, OSB. Fee: \*\*\* **FREE**\*\*\* (includes lunch) Our Sponsor is the Midwest Hope and Healing Grant through the Moline Regional Foundation.
- **Christ and the Wilderness – A Lenten Retreat for Men:** (Onsite only) February 28, 3 p.m.-March 2, 1 p.m. Jesus was tempted in the wilderness yet continued to return there again and again. During this Lenten season, we retreat to the wilderness to walk with Jesus over the rough terrain of our hearts. In our retreat together, we'll explore the scriptural foundations of wilderness journeying, discuss our individual experiences, and seek to open our hearts to the surprises that Christ prepares for us in the wilderness of our own hearts. Retreat Leader: Ric Smith, a Benedictine Oblate of St. Mary Monastery in Rock Island, IL. Arrival: 3 p.m.; Vespers: 5 p.m.; Dinner: 5:30 p.m.; Conference: 7 p.m. Fee: Registration and payment in full by February 10: \$245 single; \$230 double; \$170 commuter. Fee includes meals, speaker fee, materials, and accommodations. Registrations and payments after February 10: \$260 single; \$250 double; \$180 commuter.

## **EAGLES' WINGS, DAVENPORT**

For more information on all events go to, [www.eagleswings.ws](http://www.eagleswings.ws). Contact: 563-343-1481, [marcia@eagleswings.ws](mailto:marcia@eagleswings.ws)

- **Mass with Prayer for Healing:** February 13, 10 a.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament followed by Mass at 11 a.m. Reconciliation will be available and lunch will be provided. This event is weather permitting so please check our voice mail 563-324-7263 for weather updates. See attached flyer.

- **Begin Lent with – “Trading Your Cares for Calm”:** March 8, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Join us as we begin the Lenten Season focusing on letting go of the business and dreariness of winter and finding the peace and calm during the season of Lent as we prepare for the joy of Easter! Register online at [www.eagleswings.ws](http://www.eagleswings.ws) and click on the donate button to indicate your reservation or mail to 5816 Telegraph Rd., Davenport, IA 52804. Fee: \$20 See attached flyer.

## **OUR LADY OF THE PRAIRIE RETREAT, WHEATLAND**

For details and to register go to the full calendar at [www.theprairieretreat.org](http://www.theprairieretreat.org) You may also register via email, [olpretreat@gmail.com](mailto:olpretreat@gmail.com) or call 563-374-1092. Scholarships available.

- **The Three Faces of God:** (On-site) February 27, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Come to new spiritual insights about the role of the Three Persons (Faces) of God in your life. You will experience personal spiritual renewal and uplifting from prayer, singing, preaching and renewal of Faith commitments. Facilitator: Rev. Robert Miller and Dr. Mark Nimo. Fee \$40