

# FAITHFUL FOOTSTEPS

JUNE 2026

*Walking Together in Faith on a Lifelong Journey*

## BASEBALL VOCATION DAY WAS A HOMERUN!

### Outreach:

Students colored postcards and wrote messages to our seminarians so they can receive a little note from “home.”

### Prayer:

Students made 10 decade “baseball” rosaries to hang on their backpacks and pray throughout the day.

### Community:

Students visited with their friends and the adults about everyday topics - just normal people all loving Jesus.



The 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Vocation Day for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders was held on April 18 and the day was a huge success! Students from across the diocese gather at St. Mary’s Academy for a day of fun, faith and friendship with one another as well as a many adults from a wide variety of vocations - all saying yes to God’s call “to step up to the plate!”



## “TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME!”

The “rookies” (students) were giving a time of questions and answers about the various vocations represented. They each got a stack of baseball cards to trade and get signatures of those adults present. The day was filled with good conversation and ended with a game of baseball of course!

Be sure to check out the videos and baseball cards at <https://bismarckdiocese.com/vocationsday> and be sure to watch for details for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Vocation Day in 2027!



# Walking Together in Faith to these UPCOMING EVENTS



## SAVE THE DATE!!

### CREDIBLE WITNESSES

#### RETREAT FOR PARISH LEADERS

**"Did not our hearts  
burn within us..."**  
— Luke 24:32

A weekend of prayer,  
reflection, and renewal—  
an opportunity to step away,  
listen for the Lord, rediscover  
the story of His work in your  
life, and grow in sharing that  
story with others.

When?  
**August 28–30, 2026**

Where?  
**Assumption Abbey**



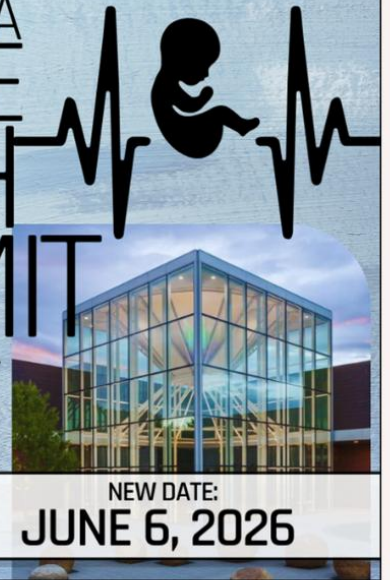
## NORTH DAKOTA PRO-LIFE YOUTH SUMMIT

North Dakota State Heritage Center  
612 E. Boulevard Ave, Bismarck, ND

Register at [www.ndrl.org](http://www.ndrl.org)

Guest Speaker  
**Dr. Jerry Obritsch**

Presented by  
Lutherans for Life of  
ND and ND Right to Life



NEW DATE:  
**JUNE 6, 2026**

## Ten Commandments

1. I am the LORD your God; you shall not have strange gods before me.
2. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.
3. Remember to keep holy the Lord's day.
4. Honor your father and your mother.
5. You shall not kill.
6. You shall not commit adultery.
7. You shall not steal.
8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
9. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife.
10. You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.

## Digital Citizenship

1. Do not put anyone or anything before God; media balance
2. Show respect/reverence to God in your when speaking & writing digitally; think before you post
3. Media balance
4. Respect and obey family and school rules for technology use
5. Cyberbullying: causing deliberate harm to someone with unkind words/posts on social media.
6. Modesty/chastity: inappropriate sites, Reputation & sexting
7. Creating online content using others work: seek appropriate permission & give credit
8. Be truthful; power of words on social media: gossiping/spreading rumors
- 9 & 10. Jealousy/greed can breed through social media: Snapchat/Instagram selfies: understand that people post the good, not always reality.  
Be grateful for all that you have.

## Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

### Level 1 Part A Training 2026

(Part B Dates TBD Summer 2027)

Monday - Friday, July 13-17 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Saturday, July 18 8:00 am - 1:00 pm

Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Bismarck, ND

Register \$175 per part

Mary Minor started her training in Level 1 in 2009 and continued to become certified in Levels 2 and 3. She helped establish and coordinate CGS at The Church of the Epiphany in Coon Rapids, MN. This included five atria, serving 400 children weekly. Mary has worked in Montessori environments for twelve years. A graduate of the Harry J. Flynn Catechetical Institute, she is active in her parish as a Sacristan, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, and the Pastoral Care Ministry. Mary became certified as a Level 1 Formation Leader in 2021.



Mary Minor

- Optional 6:45 am Mass
- Lunch on your own
- infants welcome!

Go to  
[www.bismarckdiocese.com/goodshepherd](http://www.bismarckdiocese.com/goodshepherd) or  
click the QR Code to  
register



# Digital Citizenship and Equipping Future Saints

Discussing the moral use of technology within religious instruction

**ANNABEL DOTZMAN** [www.catechist.com](http://www.catechist.com) **October 23, 2024**

## **What is digital citizenship?**

Children's first teachers are their parents, from first steps to first prayers. When children enter our classrooms, the primary focus of catechesis is to equip saints for this life and the next. No one can accurately predict what the future will be like for our youngest students. The only certainty is that technology will be a large part of it, so we strive to educate students for their future, not ours. We instruct students in Church teaching throughout their time with us, and we guide them in developing character and a moral compass. With today's increased technology use, we must guide them in applying these same values to their reality of being a part of a connected, global world. This is the essence of digital citizenship. Digital citizenship is having the skills and knowledge to think critically, behave safely, and participate responsibly in the digital world.

## **Partnering digital citizenship and faith formation**

Education and formation in the Catholic faith is a lifelong, multidimensional process. To develop a healthy, faith-filled lifestyle, children need the support of the many people in their lives, including parents, educators, and others who have an influence on their development. But it would be remiss to separate or leave out "digital" from the lifestyle description.

Students' online behavior can greatly impact the learning environment. Parents often reach out to teachers and administrators for support. One suggested resource is [CommonSenseMedia.org](http://CommonSenseMedia.org). CMS offers resources for educators and families to help students navigate the digital world.

Within the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, CSM's Digital Citizenship curriculum (go to [CommonSense.org/education](http://CommonSense.org/education)) has been adopted as the primary resource for digital citizenship instruction. Digital citizenship lessons usually focus mainly on digital footprints and online safety, but with the rise of online bullying and screen addiction, CSM recognized the need to broaden the scope. They recently updated their curriculum to include topics such as media balance, cyberbullying, and news and media literacy. This provides the opportunity for digital citizenship to be woven into everyday instruction to help students establish healthy digital habits.

A common misconception is that digital citizenship instruction is a stand-alone program. Often one teacher is responsible for planning and delivering lessons. However, to be effective, digital citizenship skills should not be presented solely in isolation. Rather, informal discussions should be integrated daily and connected throughout all subjects, including religious instruction. Students are taught right from wrong and how their conscience guides them in choosing their words and actions. If we shift our mindset to correlate digital citizenship with moral character, discussions, and learning should happen naturally throughout all classrooms.

The Ten Commandments can naturally serve as an entry point for digital citizenship conversations. The Fifth and Eighth Commandments could generate discussions on cyberbullying and social media use. Connections to copyright laws and citing online sources could be made through the Seventh Commandment. We could also showcase how technology can be used for evangelization, such as Pope Francis' social media presence. Educators should also be mindful to be model digital citizens themselves. To truly equip our future saints, all educators are called to foster and develop digital citizenship regardless of whether they teach or use technology in their classrooms.

# Look Who's Walki' in Faith

CELEBRATING FUN AND EDUCATIONAL EVENTS IN OUR DIOCESE THAT ARE SPREADING THE LOVE OF JESUS!



**Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church**  
1h · 🌐

This afternoon we celebrated the first of two First Eucharist Masses for the weekend, with the second Mass to be held tomorrow morning at 10:30 a.m. Our parish also unveiled this beautiful image of Jesus' Divine Mercy given to the parish by an anonymous donor. Please pray for the 63 students receiving First Eucharist this spring at Our Lady of Grace. We will have a Divine Mercy Sunday Holy Hour with Adoration and confessions tomorrow at 1:00 p.m.

*Jesus, I Trust in You*

**St. Bernard's Catholic Mission School**  
April 29 at 1:32 PM · 🌐

Today was a beautiful and meaningful day as we celebrated the baptism of our students. We are so proud of each of them as they took this important step in their faith journey.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this day so special—our families, staff, and community. Your love and support mean so much to our students.

May God continue to bless and guide them always. 🙏❤️

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**Church of St. Therese, the Little Flower**  
3h · 🌐

Congratulations to the children who received the sacrament of First Holy Communion on Divine Mercy Sunday at Little Flower!

Thank you to the teachers who have guided them along the way to this special day. 🙏