

## Winter Activities to enjoy while deepening your Faith

**Tea & Craft Sessions**-This year, Dawn Pegis will begin hosting monthly Tea and Craft sessions focusing on "The Twelve Days of Christmas & the True Ways My Love Gifts Us," beginning with "A Partridge In a Pear Tree" and ending in December with "Twelve Drummers Drumming." By the end of the year, we will have made 12 Christmas ornaments that can be hung on this year's Christmas tree. The first session will be on Saturday, January 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 AM. What a fun way to keep Christmas alive every month of the year!

**Winter Forum 1** -- Thursday, January 23. 6:30-8:00pm. COR at 220 East 4th St. This is the first in our series of winter enrichment programs for adults and young adults. This week Charlotte Wells will discuss the history of Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, its decline and restoration through the centuries, and what it means to Catholics in the 21st century. The program is free and open to the public. Food provided by The Screaming Eagle is available before and during the program. Information online at: <https://waterloocatholics.org/winter-forum>

**Winter Forum 2** -- Thursday, January 30. 6:30-8:00pm. COR at 220 East 4th St. This week David Cochran will discuss political science and psychology research which shows how political divisions among American Catholics are rooted in the dynamics driving political polarization in the country more broadly. The program is free and open to the public. Food provided by The Screaming Eagle is available before and during the program. Information online at: <https://waterloocatholics.org/winter-forum>

**Winter Forum 3**-- Tuesday, February 4. 6:30-8:00pm. COR at 220 East 4th St. This is the third in our series of winter enrichment programs for adults and young adults. This week Martha Reineke will discuss Rene Girard's theory of "scapegoating" and how we see this phenomenon of hate leading to violence in our current national and international politics. The program is free and open to the public. Food provided by The Screaming Eagle is available before and during the program. Information online at: <https://waterloocatholics.org/winter-forum>

**Winter Forum 4** -- Tuesday, February 12. 6:30-8:00pm. COR at 220 East 4<sup>th</sup> St. This is the final program in our series of winter enrichment programs for adults and young adults. This week Jacob Kohlhaas will discuss how the church's understanding of parenthood has changed in the modern era. The program is free and open to the public. Food provided by The Screaming Eagle is available before and during the program. Information online at: <https://waterloocatholics.org/winter-forum>

**Archdiocesan Men's Conference**-- Saturday, March 14, 2020 at Xavier High School, Cedar Rapids. Patrick Madrid will be the keynote speaker for this conference, sponsored by the Archdiocese of Dubuque. Information and registration online at: [www.CatholicMenOnline.com](http://www.CatholicMenOnline.com)

**COMMUNITY FORUM/UNDERSTANDING GAY OR LESBIAN FAMILY MEMBERS** -- Wednesday, January 29, 5:30-7:00pm at COR at 220 E. 4th St. Some family members will accept the fact that a loved one is gay, lesbian or transgender, but others may struggle with questions and fears. In this Community Forum Jennifer Christiason will address some of the common questions and concerns family members have about LGBTQ loved ones.

**FAMILIES OF GAY & LESBIAN CATHOLICS** -- Wednesday, January 29. 7:00pm. 220 E. 4th St., Waterloo. The Catholic Parishes in Waterloo host this Listening Session for parents, grandparents, and siblings who have questions or are concerned about gay and lesbian family members and their relationship to the Catholic Church. This conversation will take place in a safe, nonjudgmental environment. For information contact Dave Cushing at 319-233-0498 (email: [dbqwcaf@dbqarch.org](mailto:dbqwcaf@dbqarch.org)).

- Learn more online at: <https://waterloocatholics.org/information-for-gay-lesbian-catholics>

**LETTER TO A SUFFERING CHURCH** -- If you've read Bishop Robert Barron's book, "Letter to a Suffering Church" and are interested in discussing it with a few other Catholics, please register for a discussion group now. Groups will meet for one time, on a day and time chosen by participants.

- Register for a discussion group here: <http://bit.do/suffering-church>

**CRITICAL CHOICES WORKSHOP** -- February 19. 1:30-3:30pm. St. Francis Room, St. Edward Parish. This workshop examines some of the issues which arise at the time of a serious illness or at the end of life and helps participants consider the type of personal, spiritual and medical care they wish to receive if they are seriously ill and unable to speak for themselves. The workshop is appropriate for individuals or couples of any age. No fee. Pre-registration required. Information and registration at 319-233-0498 or online at [waterloocatholics.org/critical-choices-workshops](http://waterloocatholics.org/critical-choices-workshops)

**CATHOLIC WITNESS HOUR** -- Monday, February 24. 6:30-7:30pm. Church Hall, St. Edward Parish. Cedar Valley Catholic Evangelization Outreach hosts this opportunity for Catholic adults and young adults who want to be inspired in their practice of the Catholic faith. Enjoy a free supper before, during or after the witness talk. Open to the public. No pre-registration. Invite a family member, friend or colleague who might appreciate this opportunity. Information at 319-233-0498 and online at <https://waterloocatholics.org/catholic-witness-hour>

**MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKENDS** -- Worldwide Marriage Encounter has been offering enrichment weekends for married couples for over 40 years. These weekends are designed for couples who desire a richer, fuller married life. During the weekend couples learn to communicate in a deeper and more enriching way, free from the distractions and interruptions of daily life. Weekends are held at retreat centers or hotels. Advance registration is recommended. Weekends are currently scheduled for March 6-8, 2020 in Black River Falls, WI.; May 29-31, 2020 in Dubuque, IA; and September 25-27, 2020 in Cedar Falls, IA. Information and registration is available online at [www.iowa-wwme.org](http://www.iowa-wwme.org).