



Archdiocese of Detroit

# Department of Evangelization, Catechesis & Schools Newsletter



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faithformation@aod.org

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## Ministries within the Department

- Office of Evangelization & Catechesis
- Ministerial Certification
- Marriage, Family & Pro-Life
- Cultural Ministries (Black & Hispanic)
- Youth, Young Adult & Campus Ministries
- Office of Catholic Schools
- Health, Athletics & Personal Safety
- Catholic Youth Organization (CYO)



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## The Woman in the Arena

As we grow older, we reflect back and note certain people who have made their mark on our lives. These are the people who have caused us to pause and reflect; whose courage and fortitude have left indelible marks; shaping the very person we have become.

Eleanor Josaitis was one of those people. I was a child when the riots of '67 hit. I could not understand racism. My parents taught me all people had a dignity bestowed on them by our Creator. I admired her courage and the work she and Fr. Cunningham did as the visionaries behind Focus:HOPE.



A few years ago, Eleanor was a keynote speaker at the AOD Women's Conference. I had the privilege of spending the afternoon with her. She shared the story of how she was drawn to work in the area of civil rights after watching a show on the trials of Nuremberg, which was pre-empted by a news report of riots in Selma. Eleanor recounted the early days of Focus:HOPE and the work she had done in moving legislation through which exposed the injustices done to the poor and oppressed.

Her work was not easy. It was often met with resistance of the magnitude that would turn most away. Hate mail, threats, and setbacks abounded, but they only seemed to make her resolve all the stronger. What was it that kept her moving forward when others would have given up? It was her faith. Eleanor was clear—Christ was her anchor. She and Fr. Cunningham would exchange pennies with each other when times were toughest reminding each other, "In God we trust."

We need heroes in today's world. People who are willing to take on the status quo and work to effect change, despite the criticism of those who speak from lofty vantage points far from the trenches of battle. Eleanor was one of those people. I am reminded of an excerpt from a speech made by Teddy Roosevelt at the Sorbonne in 1910 that I think sums it up best.

*It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat.*

Eleanor's funeral Mass at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral on August 13 was filled with people of all walks of life, exemplifying the unity to which Christ calls us. May we continue to proclaim the dignity of the human person and work to break down the barriers of prejudice and racism as we bring all people into an encounter with Christ present in our world. You will not be forgotten, Eleanor.

Judith A. Maten, Director  
Office of Evangelization & Catechesis



**Archdiocese of Detroit**  
Office of Evangelization & Catechesis

# Living the Eucharist: Evangelizing the Parish



**Annual Fall Gathering**  
**Friday, September 23, 2011**  
**8:30am-3:30pm**  
**Sacred Heart Major Seminary**



*Fr. Frank DeSiano, CPS*

## ALL ARE WELCOME

Parish Catechetical  
Leaders, Youth Ministers,  
DREs, RCIA and  
Adult Faith Formation  
Coordinators, Family Life  
Ministers, Principals,  
Clergy, Evangelization  
Coordinators, etc...

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

8:30am	DOORS OPEN
9:00am	OPENING PRAYER
9:30am	KEYNOTE
10:45am	BREAKOUT/WORKSHOPS
12:00pm	MASS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
12:45pm	LUNCH
1:45pm	KEYNOTE
3:15pm	CLOSING/COMMISSIONING

## KEYNOTE SPEAKER

***Fr. Frank DeSiano, CPS***

Fr. Frank is president of Paulist  
Evangelization Ministries in  
Washington, D.C., and a nationally  
known speaker and writer. His  
numerous books and manuscripts  
focus in the areas of evangeliza-  
tion, discipleship, spirituality and  
parish renewal.

Registration also available online [www.aodonline.org/fallgathering](http://www.aodonline.org/fallgathering)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Parish (Include City) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Register by September 16th!!! Questions? Call (313) 237-7306

Please Make Checks Payable to: *Archdiocese of Detroit*

***\$15.00 per person***

*Includes Light Breakfast & Lunch*

Please mail to:

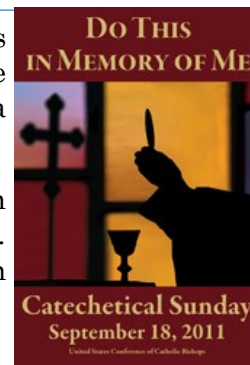
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Office of Evangelization & Catechesis  
305 Michigan Ave, 6th floor  
Detroit, MI 48226



## Catechetical Sunday 2011: Do This in Memory of Me

This year's theme for Catechetical Sunday (September 18) reflects the Church's focus on how the Word of God both nourishes the evangelizers and those who are being evangelized. Fed on the Word and the Eucharist, we grow in faith in such a way that we eagerly go forth to share the faith with others.

Catechetical Sunday offers parishes an opportunity to recognize and commission catechists and teachers in their mission to share Christ in and through the Church. Free downloadable materials for use by parish catechetical leaders that break open the theme throughout the year can be found on the USCCB Website [here](#).



The materials not only assist in developing the theme of Catechetical Sunday, but are designed to help in promoting the upcoming implementation of the New Roman Missal. Online resources include: *The Jewish Roots of the Mass*, *Eucharist for the Church's Mission in the World*, and First Eucharist aids. Family resources are also available to effectively reach out to adults and youth alike.

## Recruiting Catechists

One of the challenges for any parish catechetical leader is recruiting catechists. Despite the best laid plans, there seems to be a scramble just before classes begin to fill open positions. The catechist is the most important component in the classroom, as it is their enthusiasm and zeal that will be the living witness to students, regardless of age, of Christ's saving power in the world. We cannot solely rely on the goodness of volunteers who answer bulletin ads, rather, we must be 'on the look-out' for dynamic people willing to share Christ and the truths of His Church with others.

Not everyone has the charisma for teaching the faith. How do we identify those that do? Beyond the basic criteria that they must be actively practicing Catholics in good standing in the Church, what else should we be looking for? Here are a few pointers that may help as you interview potential catechists for your programs and ministries

- Do they have a basic knowledge of Scripture and doctrine of the Church as rooted in Scripture & Tradition?
- Do they speak freely of their relationship with Christ?
- Do they pray? What does their prayer life look like?
- What type of spiritual reading do they partake in?
- What gifts and talents have they identified in themselves that will help them in being a successful catechist?
- How do they work to share the Good News in other walks of their life?
- Can they describe why they feel God is calling them to this ministry?
- Do they understand the role of humility and docility to the Holy Spirit in being a follower of Christ? How will that play out as a catechist in a parish religious formation program?
- What are their 'expectations' for being a catechist?
- Are they willing to attend formation and certification opportunities to deepen their knowledge of the faith and how to effectively evangelize & catechize?
- What assistance will they need from the parish to be a successful catechist?

Sharing the faith with others is a profound blessing and privilege. Loyola Press offers free Webinars by Joe Paprocki, well known author. Click [here](#) for more information.

Part 1 - Section 1: An Introduction to the Cate...

**About the Presenter...**  
**Joe Paprocki, D.Min.**

- National Consultant for Faith Formation at Loyola Press in Chicago
- Pastoral minister with over 30 years of experience in the Archdiocese of Chicago
- Author of numerous books on faith formation and catechesis, including the best-selling *70 Days of Faith* and *A Whole-Bunch Faith* (Loyola Press)
- Masters degree in pastoral studies from Loyola University's Institute of Pastoral Studies
- Doctor of ministry degree from the University of St. Mary of the Lake, Mundelein, IL.

Joe Paprocki: Catechist Webinars- Part 1 and Part 2  
 15 Videos in this Playlist

0:00 / 5:25



Archdiocese of Detroit

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*"In the end, this is the goal of our meditation: to entrust ourselves ever more to the hands of God, with trust and love, certain that, in the end, it is only in doing his will that we are truly happy."*

Pope Benedict XVI

—addressing a crowd gathered at the papal summer residence in Castel Gandolfo, Wednesday, August 17, 2011



**AUTHENTIC WITNESSES**  
**INVITE. CHALLENGE. LIVE!**

COMING SOON!

2011 ENGAGING THE YOUNG CHURCH CONFERENCE

SAVE THE DATE!

OCTOBER 21-22  
ST. JOHN NEUMANN PARISH  
CANTON, MICHIGAN



Archbishop Vigneron will celebrate Mass and address conference attendees on Saturday

Hispanic track included

Friday evening social at Three Cedars Farm in Northville, Michigan

For more information, call 313-596-7308, email youthministry@aod.org, or visit us online at



The Engaging the Young Church (EYC) Conference is designed to call the whole Church together in responding to the need for mentoring and evangelizing a new generation of disciples to be a voice of hope and promise for the Church. The Conference is for all who minister to youth - parents, youth ministers, teachers, catechists, campus & young adult ministers, clergy and religious. Mark your calendars and join us as we grow intellectually, spiritually, and professionally to meet the needs of those to whom we minister!

WWW.DETROITYOUTHMINISTERS.COM



Meeting the AOD & USCCB priorities of youth & young adult ministry



Archdiocese of Detroit



EMBRACED BY MERCY  
*Transformed by Love*

Additional Presenters:

Sr. Mary Finn, Sacred Heart Major Seminary, Detroit • Catherine Lanni, Divine Mercy Center, Eastpointe • Fr. Joseph Horn, Holy Family Catholic Church, Memphis  
Marjorie Gabriel-Burrow, Metro Catholic Gospel Choir, Detroit

Music & Drama under the direction of:

Dr. Noriko Ernst • Kelly Nieto • Marjorie Gabriel-Burrow

9th ANNUAL  
CATHOLIC WOMEN'S  
CONFERENCE

Friday and Saturday  
October 28 & 29, 2011

Best Western Sterling Inn  
Banquet & Conference Center, Sterling Heights

Keynote Speaker

*His Excellency*

*The Most Reverend*

*Allen H. Vigneron*

*Archbishop of Detroit*



*"What is there about the feminine genius that has made women God's privileged agents for sharing the good news of Divine Mercy?"*

Register online at [www.aodwomensministry.org](http://www.aodwomensministry.org) or call (313)237-4683