

The Thirtieth Annual Catechist Convocation



Miracles: Manifestations of God's Transcendent Love for Us

Saturday, November 9, 2019
Archbishop Carroll High School
211 Matson Ford Road
Radnor, PA 19087

Co-sponsored by the Office for Catechetical Formation
&
Archdiocesan Association of Parish Directors, Coordinators and
Administrators of Religious Education



THE CATECHIST CONVOCATION CELEBRATES THIRTY YEARS!

The Catechist Convocation is an annual faith formation event cosponsored by the Office for Catechetical Formation and the Archdiocesan Association of Parish Directors, Coordinators, and Administrators of Religious Education (PD/C/ARE). What is the Catechist Convocation? In the early 1980's, a group of Parish Directors of Religious Education created a grass roots venue known as the "Catechist Showcase." Using a parish site, this event provided an annual opportunity for the most experienced and gifted volunteer catechists to share their practical insights and best practices in teaching the faith to children. In 1989, the "Catechist Showcase" was retitled the "Catechetical Forum" as professional presenters and broader topics were added. The Catechetical Forum was later named the Catechist Convocation as participants included both parish catechists and Catholic school teachers. Though the name has changed over the years, the PD/C/ARE Association keeps true to the original mission of its Catechist Convocation:

The professional and spiritual growth of the parish catechist through a sharing of theological insights, teaching methodologies, and practical applications.

Schedule

8:00AM	REGISTRATION, REFRESHMENTS AND EXHIBITS
8:45AM	MOVE TO AUDITORIUM
8:55AM	WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
9:05AM	CELEBRATION OF MASS <i>The Most Reverend Michael J. Fitzgerald, Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia, Celebrant and Homilist</i> Road to Sainthood
11:00-11:50AM	Session 1/lunch
12:00-12:50PM	Session 2/lunch
1:00-1:50PM	Session 3/lunch
2:00-3:00PM	Session 4/keynote

SESSION 1: WORKSHOPS

A-1. Healing Miracles Past and Present

Sr. Margaret Rose Adams, IHM Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Schools, Archdiocese of Philadelphia

During his public ministry, Jesus performed many healing miracles. He continues today to heal in mind and body. Come and see what healing miracles He has performed in your life. Special commemorative bookmarks will be distributed.

A-2. Signs and Wonders

Louis P. De Angelo, Ed.D. Secretary for Catholic Education/Superintendent of Schools, Diocese of Wilmington

Can you recognize the signs and wonders found in the Gospel of St. John in your life? Will you lead your students to see them in their lives? Come and explore the miracles of Jesus noted in the Gospel of St. John.

A-3. How the Miraculous Plays a Part in Discerning God's Will

Fr. Stephen P. DeLacy Vocation Director for the Diocesan Priesthood, Archdiocese of Philadelphia

Discerning God's will is the catalyst for allowing God's power and love to manifest in your life in a great way. That's where miracles happen. This workshop will show catechists how to teach our young people to experience these miracles as they discern God's will.

A-4. The Miracle of Augustus Tolton

Joyce Duriga Editor, Chicago Catholic, Archdiocese of Chicago

Father Augustus Tolton was the first identified black American ordained to the priesthood in the United States. This presentation brings to light his quiet witness as a challenge to prejudices and narrow-mindedness that can keep us insulated from the universal diversity of the kingdom of God.

A-5. The Miracle of Forgiveness

Sr. J. Sheila Galligan IHM Theology Professor, Immaculata University

Jesus teaches that offering forgiveness makes a brilliant day of the darkest night. When the state of unforgiveness has threatened and now there is forgiveness— we witness a miracle. What joy! This presentation will focus on people who model the miraculous effects of forgiveness.

A-6. Mother Mary Lange: Nurtured and Sustained by Providence

Sr. Marcia Hall, OSP (speaker & pilgrimage guide), Marie Wicks (lay associate), Phyllis Johnson (Lange Guild member),

Archdiocese of Baltimore *Mother Mary Lange was the co-founder of the oldest religious congregation for women of African descent in the world. She also established the oldest Catholic school for black children in the US. She achieved much through her reliance on Providence.*

A-7. Eucharistic Miracles: Uncovering the Depth of God's Love in Christ

Rev. Daniel Mackle Director of Liturgy/Faculty, St. Charles Borromeo Seminary

Eucharistic miracles point to the primary gift of God's mercy and love for us in the death and resurrection of Christ. See how these can become catechetical instruments of a deeper appreciation of the celebration of Mass.

A-8. The Profound Love of God and the Power of the Saints

Rev. Anthony E. Michalik CSSR Associate Pastor, St. Peter the Apostle at Shrine of St. John Neumann

Seeking a more profound understanding of God's love as manifested through the miraculous intercession of the saints, we offer concrete present day testimony of this greater love that continues to come to us through the powerful and miraculous intercession of St. John Neumann— Redemptorist Saint.

A-9. Feed My Lambs: Making Miracles for Each Other Everyday (Level 3)

Marie Milano Director of Religious Education, Stella Maris Parish

Eucharist, sacrifice, meal and Real Presence is the one miracle performed by God that we can personally witness every time Mass is celebrated. Through the reception of the Eucharist we can create miracles every time we feed people, both spiritually and physically. Let's talk about how!

A-10. Creating a Miracle Box

Sr. Celeste Mokrzycki SSJ Pastoral Associate, St. Monica, Atlantic City, NJ, Artist

Inspired by paintings of Miracles worked by Jesus, we will create a "miracle box" in which to write down those times in our lives when God intervened in an extraordinary way and filled us with wonder and gratitude.

A-11. Bringing the Gospels to Life

Bill Monaghan Music Minister Holy Family University, St. Joseph Parish, Warrington

A hands on workshop with acting, mime, skits, and line reading to give participants experience in bringing the Gospels to life! Participants will be asked to participate!

SESSION 1: WORKSHOPS (continued)

A-12. “Be-Attitudes” Can Work Miracles in Middle Grades (Level 5/6)

Sr. Edward Quinn IHM Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment, Archdiocese of Philadelphia
Fostering positive values in the middle grade classrooms can lead to every day miracles as students approaching their pre-teen years cope with challenges. This presentation will suggest strategies for bringing a faith-focus to all students do throughout the day by building positive attitudes and prayer.

A-13. The Gift of God’s Special Miracles

Kathy Ross Director of Religious Education, St. Martin of Tours Parish, New Hope
This presentation offers a candid look into the lives of those families with special needs children. Interviews with parents and children demonstrate an authentic perception of the joy, challenges and love experienced within each family. God’s miracles are evident in every age, stage and ability.

A-14. Estoy vivo porque Dios me ama **

Erik Sánchez Seminarian for the Congregation of the Mission (Vincentians), St. Charles Borromeo Seminary
El tema de la presentación es el amor infinito de Dios hacia nosotros, sus hijos, y que se expresa primeramente en el regalo de nuestra vida. Luego se extiende este principio del amor de Dios y el sentirnos por El como la Fuente de donde brota nuestro amor hacia los demás.

A-15. The Miraculous Medal– A Gift from Heaven

Rev. Michael J. Shea CM Miraculous Medal Shrine, Germantown
The history of the Miraculous Medal– how it was received and the apparitions to St. Catherine Laboure will be discussed. The presenter will show how the Miraculous Medal is a gift from God.

A-16. Eucharistic Adoration for Children

Mary Ellen Sokoloff Teacher, St. Cornelius Elementary School, Chadds Ford
This presentation is designed to help you lead your students into the mystery of the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist and to deepen their personal relationship with God; Father, Son and Spirit.

A-16.A-

A-17. The Transformative Power of a Virtuous Life

Sr. Mary Ann Spaetti IHM IHM Director of Postulants and Vocations, Villa Maria House of Studies
We teach our children the meaning of virtues. Are we teaching them to live a virtuous life? This session will explore how virtue education can be very practical when directed by the Holy Spirit.

A-18. Lunch

**** In Spanish/en español**

SESSION 2: WORKSHOPS

B-1. The Power of Prayer: Miracles Happen Everyday

Sr. Rose Marie Adams IHM Pastoral Minister, St. Gabriel Parish, Philadelphia

God is always with us and longs for us to have a deep relationship with Him. This workshop will explore various prayer styles and concrete ways to be open to God's transformative power in our lives and the lives of those we serve.

B-2. Miracles of Modern Communication: Using Media to Encounter God

Rev. John E. Donia School Minister, Bishop Shanahan High School

Recognizing that the internet and social media are gifts from God, this session will highlight how these tools offer immense possibilities for encounter and solidarity.

B-3. Instrumentos vivos del Amor de Dios por su gente **

Laura Endara-Mantilla Hispanic Ministry, Mother Boniface Spirituality Center, Professor for Hispanic Mobil Institute– diocesan parishes *Vamos a la Fuente más importante “La Biblia”.*

Se explica la importancia de la Biblia como instrumento primordial de la Fuente del amor de Dios por su gente. Ejemplos dinámicos se darán para incentivar el uso de la Biblia para todas las edades.

B-4. The Miracle of Forgiveness

Sr. J. Sheila Galligan IHM Theology Professor, Immaculata University

Jesus teaches that offering forgiveness makes a brilliant day of the darkest night. When the state of unforgiveness has threatened and now there is forgiveness– we witness a miracle. What joy! This presentation will focus on people who model the miraculous effects of forgiveness.

B-5. Preparing Children for the Miracle of Miracles: Teaching & Receiving the Body of Christ (Level 2/3)

Sr. Barbara Jude Gentry IHM Director of Religious Education, SS. Simon and Jude Parish

The catechists will receive creative suggestions and simple ideas to incorporate into lessons focusing on the Real Presence of Jesus in Holy Eucharist. The sharing will help prepare children at home, in the classroom and in the Catholic Church.

B-6. Eucharistic Miracles: Uncovering the Depth of God's Love in Christ

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B-9. Jesus– His Miracles and You– Level 1

Sr. Ann Mark Morris IHM Resource Room Teacher, St. Katherine of Siena School, Philadelphia

How does a first grader respond to Jesus' call to follow him? Hands on activities will be shared. Activities will demonstrate how to be like Jesus in everyday ways.

B-10. “Be-Attitudes” Can Work Miracles in Middle Grades (Level 5/6)

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B-11. Kindergarten Experience of God's Love in the Miracle Stories

Mary Ellen Schuler Catechist, Our Lady of Grace Parish, Pennel Barbara Hall Catechist, Our Lady of Good Counsel, Southampton

Jesus is not a Superhero. He could only perform miracles through the power of God, His Father...the same God who loves and cares for each of us every day and forever. Look around with your young students for everyday miracles that immerse un in His love. a mission of faith, hope and love.

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B-15. Respect Life: The Miracle of Life

Rev. Christopher Walsh Pastor, St. Raymond Parish, Philadelphia, Chaplain, Bishop McDevitt High School

Life is precious from the moment of conception until natural death. Children appreciate the wonder and beauty of human life and this session will explore ways catechists and teachers can engage students at various levels in the respect and care for all human life. Bring ideas to share!!

B-16. Lunch

****In Spanish/ en español**

SESSION 3: WORKSHOPS

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C-8. Helping God's Children Make Miracles in Mission Lands

Alixandra Holden Mission Educator Coordinator, Missionary Childhood Association, Archdiocese of Philadelphia

During this workshop, hear how God's love is present in Mission lands through His divine mercy alive in missionaries. Learn how we, as educators, are tasked with fostering Missionary Disciples who pray and sacrifice for those in most need of God's saving miracles.

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C-15. Lunch

SESSION 4: KEYNOTES

D-1. Miracles: Manifestations of God's Transcendent Love for Us

Rev. John Ames Pastor, St. Colman Parish Director of Newman Center for Swarthmore, Haverford and Bryn Mawr Colleges

D-2. Identificando la presencia divina cada día** ** In Spanish/en español

Hermana Ruth Bolarte IHM Coordinadora iniciativas pastorales hispanos, Renew International

Te has dado cuenta de que hay días en los que tú Corazón se siente muy contento, como con mucha luz; otros en los que mas bien está oscuro, intranquilo? San Ignacio de Loyola dice que "cada momento ofrece una ventana para ver donde estuvo Dios en su día." La Pausa Ignaciana es una oración que transforma la vida en medio de nuestros horarios tan ocupados.

HOW DO I REGISTER?

Registration opens on August 2019

Registration is online. You will need a credit card. If you wish to register more than one person, at the end of the first registration (thank you page) you have the option to add another person. You may add up to eight people without leaving the website. Sessions are first come first serve.

The link for registration is : <https://secure.acceptiva.com/?cst=4A9jsR>

A confirmation will be sent via email to the payer. Please share the information with the participants.

Registration will close when the maximum (700) has been reached.

Cómo Registrarse?

Las registraciones abrirán en agosto 2019

Las registraciones están en línea. Necesitarán una tarjeta de crédito. Sólo una persona se podrá registrar a la vez.

El enlace para la registración es: <https://secure.acceptiva.com/?cst=4A9jsR>.

Una confirmación será enviada al correo electrónico de la persona que pague.

Las registraciones cerrarán cuando alcance su máxima capacidad (700 personas).