

The Year of Faith

Pope Benedict XVI has declared a Year of Faith which will begin on October 11, on the anniversary of Vatican II, and will conclude on November 24, 2013, the Solemnity of our Lord Jesus Christ. This year will be a favorable occasion to encounter , more profoundly, Jesus Christ, "the pioneer and perfecter of our faith" (Hebrews 12:2).

"We want this year to arouse in every believer the aspiration to profess the faith in fullness and with renewed conviction, with confidence and hope."

~ Pope Benedict XVI, *The Door of Faith*

In light of the Year of Faith our first two presentations will address Catholic teaching regarding two difficult issues: same-sex attraction and contraception. The presentations will help us understand that the Church's teachings are born out of love and a desire for us to live joy-filled lives as God intended. We will then be better equipped to present the truth in a pastoral way with confidence and compassion, even in difficult situations.

Fr. Paul Check



Fr. Paul Check was ordained a priest of the Diocese of Bridgeport, CT in 1997. At the direction of his bishop in 2002, he established a Courage chapter in his diocese for which he continues to serve as chaplain. He holds an STB from the Gregorian University and an STL from the University of the Holy Cross, both in Rome. He teaches moral theology to seminarians, permanent deacon candidates and religious. Father Check graduated from Rice University, TX in 1981 with a BA in history. He served as an officer in the US Marine Corps for nine years prior to entering the seminary. In 2008, he was elected to succeed Fr John Harvey as the Executive Director of Courage International. As director, he seeks to inform how the Church approaches the complex and controversial question of homosexuality in a pastoral and truthful manner and what the Courage apostolate offers to men and women with same sex attraction.

Alice Heinzen



Society allows people to express love with more freedom and creativity than ever before. All it asks is that you consent and protect yourself with contraceptives when the loving begins. This is the illusion of love that families hear in schools, media, government, medical communities. They are bombarded with the message that whatever feels good should be allowed without any commitment or boundaries. What is so sad, is that people are buying into this deception.

Families deserve the truth about love that is taught by the Catholic Church. We must be prepared to counter the cultural definitions of love and replace them with the light of truth. Alice Heinzen, NFP coordinator for the Diocese, will present the Catholic position on love and its impact on human dignity. She will offer strategies that can be used by religious educators to provide families and youth with Christ's reality about love and its human expression. She will dispel the culture's impoverished view of love, provide rationale for the development of personal responsibility and invite the audience to develop sound arguments for love as more than a good feeling.

Fr. Joseph Hirsch



In this keynote Father Hirsch shares many images, analogies, and themes used to invite, challenge, and inspire young people to consider and to grow in God's call to holiness for them, as well as to discern the state in life to which the Lord is leading them. The workshop will have a special focus on the call to priesthood. This workshop is directed to new and veteran teachers who are looking to expand the kinds of examples they use with the youth. The content for this talk is drawn from Father Hirsch's years of teaching high school, giving parish talks, youth retreats, and vocation ministry, and from the shared experiences of others in vocation ministry.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

All catechetical leaders from each parish are required to attend this important conference. It will also be helpful to bring catechists and other adults.

Friday Schedule

- 11:00 Registration (Concessions Available)
- 12:00 Opening Prayer/Intro to Year of Faith
- 12:15 "Charity and Clarity: The Catholic Church and Homosexuality." by Fr. Paul Check
- 1:45 "A Personal Testimonial: A Courage Member Tells His Story"
- 2:45 Breakout Sessions (see list)
- 3:45 "The Illusion of Love" by Alice Heinzen
- 5:30 Dismiss to go to Hotels
- 6:30 Social
- 7:00 Banquet Dinner at Best Western Riverfront Hotel, 1835 Rose Street, La Crosse

Saturday Schedule

- 8:00 Mass at Cathedral of St. Joseph the Workman
- 9:00 Breakfast – Aquinas High School
- 9:30 Year of Faith Across the Border
- 9:40 Vatican II: A Sure Compass
- 10:45 Breakout Sessions (see list)
- 11:45 Lunch with Each Deanery
- 12:45 Year of Faith & the New Evangelization
- 2:30 Creative Ways of Teaching Vocations by Fr. Joseph Hirsch
- 4:00 Conclusion and Closing Prayer

Schedule Subject to Change

Fill out form below and list of breakout sessions; then mail in with registration fee by July 20

REGISTRATION FORM FOR DIOCESAN INSERVICE – August 10-11, 2012

Name: _____ Address: _____

Parish: _____ City: _____

Phone: _____ Title (circle): DRE / CRE / CYM / Youth Min. / Team / Priest

Email: _____ Pastoral Assoc. / Catechist / Other _____

The \$45 Conference Fee includes: Fri./Sat./ Sessions; Friday Night Banquet; Sat. Breakfast, lunch and light refreshments

Please indicate if you will be attending banquet _____ Yes _____ No _____

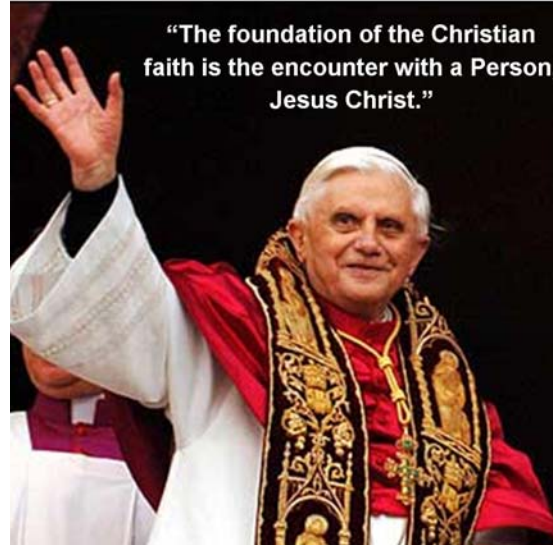
Please enclose fee along with this form. Mail to the Office of Catechesis and Evangelization, PO Box 4004, La Crosse, WI 54602-4004. Checks payable to Diocese of La Crosse. Room accommodations made separately by calling hotels listed in this flyer.

Friday Session # _____ Saturday Session # _____

If questions email Susan at sskemp@dioceseoflacrosse.com. Or call 608-791-2658

Diocese of La Crosse
Offices of Catechesis and Evangelization and
Youth and Young Adult Ministry
P.O. Box 4004
3710 East Avenue South

Catechetical Conference



Preparation for the Year of Faith

August 10-11, 2012

**Aquinas High School
315 S. 11th Street
La Crosse**



MOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS *

(If non-profit, bring Tax Exempt number.)

Howard Johnson

2150 Rose St., La Crosse – North
Rates: \$49 – 1 bed/\$54 – 2 beds
Mention Diocese of La Crosse to get rate
- block of rooms have been reserved
until July 10th.
1-608-781-0400/1-800-367-3935

Settle Inn

2110 Rose St., La Crosse – North
Rates: \$110 – 2 beds
1-608-781-5100/ 1-800-677-3060

America's Best Value

2622 Rose St., La Crosse – North
Rates: \$70—2 beds
1-608-781-3070/1-888-315-3378

Best Western Riverfront

1835 Rose St., La Crosse – North
Rates: \$119—2 beds
1-608-781-7000/1-800-688-9260

Brookstone

1830 Rose St., La Crosse – North
Rates: \$80 – 1 bed/\$90 2 beds
1-608-781-1400/1-800-243-3053

Days Hotel

101 Sky Harbour Dr., La Crosse (French Island)
Rates: \$109—2 beds
1-608-783-1000

Econo Lodge

1906 Rose St., La Crosse – North
Rates: \$60—2 beds
1-608-781-0200/1-800-658-9497

Super 8

1625 Rose St., La Crosse – North
Rates: \$95 – 1 bed/\$105 - 2 beds
1-608-781-8880/ 1-800-800-8000

*Prices are subject to change. Call hotel to verify room rates. Mention Diocese of La Crosse as some hotels will give Corporate Rates.

