

MONTHLY REPORT

Faith Formation Administrative Team
June 2017

Adult Faith Formation Dave Cushing

A. Initiation

1. **RCRA.** Four people have completed their preparation for reception and have or will be received into the church this month.

> Learn more about RCRA here:

<https://waterloocatholics.org/rcra>

2. **Baptism Preparation.** 04 families attended the Baptism class in May. The next Baptism preparation class is June 12 at Blessed Sacrament.

> Learn more about baptism preparation here:

<http://waterloocatholics.org/baptizing-infants-and-children>

> Read cumulative evaluations from Baptism preparation here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-JKRWWJSY/>

B. Evangelization

1. **Catholic Evangelization Outreach.** 35 people attended the Catholic Witness Hour May 22 at Queen of Peace Parish. The next Witness Hour is July 24 at Immaculate Conception in Gilbertville.

> Learn more about the Witness Hour here:

<http://waterloocatholics.org/catholic-witness-hour>

2. **Friends in Faith Singles Ministry.** The next Singles Mingle is June 10 at Cedar Falls Family Restaurant.

3. **Inactive Catholics.** A discussion session for inactive and alienated Catholics meets on the third Wednesday evening of the month at COR.

> Learn more about Inactive Catholics here:

<http://waterloocatholics.org/information-for-inactive-and-alienated-catholics>

4. **Gay and Lesbian Catholics.** A discussion session for gay and lesbian Catholics meets on the fourth Wednesday evening of the month at COR; a discussion session for family members of gay and lesbian Catholics meets on the fifth Wednesday evening of the month at COR.

> Learn more about Gay and Lesbian Catholics here:

<http://waterloocatholics.org/information-for-gay-lesbian-catholics>

C. Adult Formation and Enrichment

1. **Busy Catholics Guide to Catholic Living.** 02 people attended the Busy Catholic's Guide to Sharing Faith May 16, at COR. The Busy Catholic's Guide to Prayer is scheduled for Tuesday, June 20, at COR.

> Learn more about the Busy Catholic's Guide to Catholic Living here:

<https://waterloocatholics.org/busy-catholics-guide-to-catholic-life>

2. **Critical Choices Workshop.** 09 people attended the Critical Choices Workshop May 20 at Queen of Peace Parish.

> Learn more about Critical Choices Workshops here:

<https://waterloocatholics.org/critical-choices-workshops>

5. **Care-Givers Retreat.** The Spring Care-Givers retreat is scheduled for June 3 at Covenant Medical Center.

> Learn more about the Care-Givers Retreat here:

<https://waterloocatholics.org/care-givers-retreats>

6. **Summer Forum Series.** The Summer Forum Series (formerly "Summer at the Cellar") will begin June 27; the presenters will be Jacob Kohlhaas and Martin Lohrmann. Other presenters this summer will be Dr. David Cochran, Dr. Mary Ducey, Beth Haile and Teresa Culpepper.

> Learn more about the Summer Forum Series here:

--<https://waterloocatholics.org/summer-at-the-cellar>

7. **Summer Bible Series.** Dr. Bill Mulcahey will facilitate the annual Summer Bible Series which will meet this year in August. The topic for the four-week series is the book of Job. Dr. Mulcahey is retired professor of scripture at Mount Mercy University.

D. Spiritual Growth

1. **Pentecost Novena.** 39 people registered to receive the Pentecost Novena by email. 180 people accessed the reflections on our Facebook page.

E. Administration

1. **Waterloo Catholics on Facebook.** Total daily reach for the Waterloo Catholics Facebook page for May was 3,263 (daily average: 105; daily range: 29/182).

Team Leader
Dave Cushing

1. Annual team evaluations have been revised and will be completed by Team members and the pastors. See revised Team evaluation forms here:

- > Adult Formation: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FFAT-Adult>
- > Young Adult: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FFAT-YoungAdult>
- > Youth Ministry: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FFAT-Youth>
- > Children & Family/Religious Education: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FFAT-RelEd>
- > Children & Family/Sacrament: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FFAT-Sacrament>
- > Office manager: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FFAT-Office>

Young Adult/COR at 220 East
Ellen Voegele

COR at 220 East

Administration:

COR Golf Outing - May 25, 2017

It was a great first year for this fundraiser. We had four teams participate, recruited 9 hole sponsors, and made close to \$2000. It was a great opportunity to get the word out about COR a little more. Thanks to Red Carpet Golf Course for being so supportive and wonderful to work with and very flexible with a small number of teams. We also could not have done this without our parish liaisons: Jeff Lappe, Scott Shaffer & Maria DiValentin, Danny Zeets, and Jim Reidy. Please support our hole sponsors: McCoy, Riley, and Shea P.L.C Law Firm, Brown Derby Reception and Event Center, Cottonwood Canyon Coffee Shop, Contemplative Outreach of Northeast Iowa (Centering Prayer), Guiding Star Cedar Valley, EMBARC, Basal Pizzeria, Cedar Valley Bicycle Collective, and Cedar Valley Sportsplex.

COR Internships -

I have hired Gabrielle Pranger to work on the COR Event Planner internship. We met for an initial training last week and she will begin working June 1.

Faith Formation-Sponsored Events:

Monthly Offerings:

Catholic Q & A - Thursday, May 4 - 0 people attended

Next up: Thursday, June 1, 7 pm

Discussion Night - Sunday, May 21 Topic: Forgiveness:
Yourself. Others. God. - 2 people attended

Next Up: June 19

Monthly Movie Night with Fr. Bullock - May 29, Monsieur Vincent - 17 people
attended (included Society of St. Vincent de Paul Members)

Next Up: July 16, Million Dollar Baby

Adult Small Groups -

3 of the small groups that met during Lent are continuing to meet at COR.
One meets every other Tuesday, one every other Thursday morning, and one
every other Thursday evening.

One-time Events:

Parish Secretaries Lunch - May 10

Faith Formation hosted all of the parish administrative assistants at COR
for a lunch of appreciation and to discuss concerns and more effective
communication strategies.

Private Events:

Graduation Open House - Saturday, June 3

Bridal Dinner - Saturday, June 30

Young Adult Ministry:

Get to Know Your Neighbors - May 14 - Antioch Baptist Church, Waterloo - 2 people attended

We will break for the summer months of June and July and begin again in August.

Waterloo Spring Clean Up Service Project - May 15 - 3 young adults participated in this city-wide event sponsored by the Public Works Sanitation Department of Waterloo. We cleaned the stretch of Martin Luther King from East High School to Linden and had a great time doing it.

Adult Faith Formation:

RCIA - We have continued to meet on Sundays at St. Edward to delve into the sacraments. We will conclude on June 11 and gather for a potluck on June 14.

Planning/Visioning Retreat Day - May 22 @ American Martyrs Retreat House

Dave Cushing and I met for a morning of prayer, reflection, and discussion on a vision for adult faith formation that includes young adult ministry, COR, and Initiation. We had a fruitful discussion and are going to meet again on June 12 to continue the conversation.

Young Adult Ministry Communications –

- Flocknote - (flocknote.com/wcff) 334 subscribers
- Facebook - Young Adults ([facebook.com/cvyoungadults](https://www.facebook.com/cvyoungadults)) 194 likes
- Facebook - COR - 120 likes

Networking/Promoted Events:

- Clarke Concert - May 1 (Liturgy & BS)
- First Tuesday - May 2 (AFF & COR)
- Community Meals - May 5, 12, 19, 26 (Hospitality House & COR)
- Busy Catholics Guide to Sharing Faith - May 16 (AFF & COR)
- Listening Session for Inactive Catholics - May 17 (AFF & COR)
- Discussion for Gay & Lesbian Catholics - May 24 (AFF & COR)
- Listening Session for Friends & Family Members of Gay & Lesbian Catholics - May 31 (AFF & COR)

Networking/Promoting:

- Community Meals - June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 (Hospitality House & COR)
- First Tuesday - June 6 (AFF & COR)
- Listening Session for Inactive Catholics - June 21 (AFF & COR)
- Discussion for Gay & Lesbian Catholics - June 28 (AFF & COR)

In process:

- COR Summer Calendaring
- COR Administration
 - COR Subcommittee
 - COR Networking Friends
 - Publicity - create a meet up group for discussion nights
 - Young Adult Ministry panel meeting
 - COR Hospitality Ministers trainings

Spiritual Growth & Professional Development:

- GMAIL Training Day - May 19
 - Spiritual Direction
-

Children and Family Catechesis
Kelleryn Rauzi (Maternity Leave)
Submitted by Dave Cushing

1. **Catechist Appreciation.** The year-end appreciation for religious education catechists will be held May 31 at Old Chicago.
2. **Registrations for Summer and Fall.** Registration information has been mailed to families currently enrolled in religious education and families with children who are not enrolled in either RE or Catholic School. In-person registrations were held May 17 at Sacred Heart and May 21 at Blessed Sacrament; in-person registration for Spanish-speaking families were scheduled May 14 and June 4 at Queen of Peace. In-person registration for fall religious education programs will be scheduled in August.
4. **Summer Religious Education.** As of this date, 54 students are registered for the summer RE program. The summer religious education program will be held June 19-30 at St. Edward School. Stacie Mills is the coordinator; Dave Cushing is the team supervisor.
5. **Totus Tuus.** This year's Totus Tuus week is July 24-28 at St. Edward School. Julie Novotney is the coordinator for the day time program; Annie Zeets is the coordinator for the evening program; Dave Cushing is the team supervisor.

High School/Middle School Youth Ministry
Annie Zeets

High School

- April 30: Topic Night: "Why do bad things happen?": Discussion night focusing on how there seems to be so much bad stuff happening. We talked a lot about focusing on the good and how we can use prayer to center us. *16 students attended. (prayer, catechesis)*
- May 2: Faith Sharing at CHS
- May 3: Lectio Divina: New thing that I am trying on Wednesday nights. We read the gospel for the upcoming Sunday. Students write words or phrases the first time. Write in their own words the second time. And how it applies to their lives the third time. Having students write seems to help them when it comes time to discuss. *16 students attended. (catechesis, prayer)*
- May 7: Tough Topic Night: Always good discussion. This time we focused a lot on living together before marriage, gay marriage and Donald Trump. Students are told they can speak freely, but must be respectful of each other's opinions. I use the YouCat as my guide to what the church says about topics that are discussed. *23 students attended. (advocacy, catechesis, prayer)*
- May 10: Lectio Divina: *14 students attended*

NCYC Update

- NCYC 2017 is Nov. 16-20, 2017 in Indianapolis.
- *141 students and 25 adults are registered. We will have 3 buses and will be the largest group in the archdiocese - our group is 10% of the diocesan group!*
- Fundraising Update
April 17: Chick-Fil-A (\$124)
April 23: Pancake Breakfast at St. Eds (\$700)

May 1: Panera Bread (still waiting on total)
May 6: Clean-up at Sunrise Petting Zoo (\$200)
May 11: Panda Express (\$60)
May 14: Pancake breakfast at Blessed Sacrament (\$900)
Private Donations:
Sacred Heart first fruits: (\$800)
Private donations: (\$1350)
TBD: Bake sale at Queen of Peace
Payment #5 is due July 15th

Coming Up:

- June 13: Mass and Breakfast at Blessed Sacrament
- June 20: Mass and Breakfast at St. Eds
- June 27: Mass and Breakfast at Sacred Heart
- July 7: Summer cookout (location TBD)

Middle School

- April 30: Mass. Lunch, CHS musical: *7 students attended*
- May 19: Girls Night: *8 students attended*

Coming Up:

- June 23: Outdoor movie night - location TBD
- July 12-13: Serve 'n Slide: This is a combined event with Mason City youth ministry. We will be staying at Blessed Sacrament and going to Lost Island. Service locations include: Hospitality House, Catholic Worker, Western Home - still looking for a few more sites.

Totus Tuus:

- July 23-28 at St. Eds
- I am program coordinator for the evening program for grades 7-12 which runs Sunday night - Thursday night that week
- Have had several meetings with Julie Novotney to get registration forms to parishes and schools and to discuss priest coverage. Dave will be contacting the priests.
- Next steps: Supply lists, snack lists, recruiting and training volunteers, generating class rosters from registrations

Professional Development

- Attended archdiocesan gmail training
- Helped lead mini- retreat for Blessed Maria teachers on Friday, May 12th
- Monthly NCYC webinars (archdiocesan and national)

Children and Family Catechesis

Julie Niemeyer

First Sacraments -

- First Communion Masses at the parishes went well. First Communion pictures have been received from the photographer and were either delivered through school or made available for pick up at parish offices.
- 12 parents completed the First Communion Preparation evaluation survey. This asked about the preparation process only - parent meetings, process for at-home involvement, materials used, retreat, etc. All responses fell in the "Strongly Agree" or "Agree" categories when asked if the preparation elements were helpful and effective. On average two-thirds of respondents replied "Strongly Agree."

Children's Initiation

- Will work this summer on organizing materials for high school CI classes. I've doing these with individuals and small groups on an "as needed" basis and have found it necessary to have a sequenced syllabus.

Confirmation

- "Wrap-up" meeting and celebration with Confirmation Team was held May 24. Overall the Team members were pleased with how the preparation program and the April 2 liturgy went. At this point it sounds like all team members (Deacon Ray Larsen, Vanessa Gomez, Chris and Carrie Evans) will help again next year.
- Newly Confirmed were invited to complete an evaluation survey. Only 9 did so, but results from those were favorable. The Confirmation celebration received especially high ratings. Comments indicated that favorite sessions for the students were the retreat and the classes that Sponsors attended. Team will use the information and comments when planning preparation classes for next year.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

- Continuing 2x per month at QP and SH during the summer. No CLOW at St. Ed's during the summer, but all five of this year's leaders have indicated that they will continue when CLOW resumes there in September. Will be contacting someone from Blessed Sacrament that had expressed interest in helping get CLOW started there.

Professional Development

- Participated in May 8 "Digital Open House" with Archdiocesan Faith Formation Staff
- Attended Ministry-Affiliated-Cohort (MAC) meeting on May 10.
- Hope to take an on-line course entitled "Faith and Human Development" from Dayton University this summer; am on a waiting list. I've ordered the text and will read it if another section of the course doesn't open.

Other

- Will help with Summer RE as needed.
- Facilitated May WPL meeting.

Deacon Rigoberto Real is working with two men with special needs who live in a care facility. He is preparing them for First Communion and Confirmation. Deacon will also conduct Confirmation classes for Spanish-speaking adults start

Office Manager
Becky McElroy

Meetings

- Preparing agenda's, updating information, and sending out meeting agenda's and minutes from the FFAT meetings.

Staff/Office

- Support staff with ongoing needs.
- Daily office duties.
- Put in survey monkey surveys for Dave/Julie.
- Invoiced for CORE, Sunday and Wednesday RE.
- Preparing month end financial reports for Commission and Team. Send out individual monthly income statements to team members.
- Mailed out Summer/Fall Registration packets, letters for new Formed program in the fall.
- Mailed out postcard reminders for registration dates and times for Summer and Fall Programs.
- Attend/helped with registrations on May 14th and May 17th.
- Called families not registered for Summer RE that attended last year.
- Organized all registrations coming into office, sent the welcome letters out to the families as registrations are received, answered calls about registrations, took care of deposits.
- Created spreadsheet for Summer RE.
- Helped organize the Catechist appreciation dinner.
- Attended the Arch Gmail training on May 19th.