

Dear Parish Catechetical Leaders,

We pray that this joy-filled Easter season has been a great blessing for you and your loved ones.

We are pleased to share the following important information and resources to support you in your ministry.

APRIL/MAY PCL COUNTY MEETING VIDEO LINKS

Thank you to all who were able to join us for our most recent PCL County Meetings. If you were not able to join us and would like to view your county's meeting, here are the links to the recordings:

- [VIDEO LINK](#) for HUDSON PCLs MEETING on 4/26/2023
- [VIDEO LINK](#) for PART-TIME/VOLUNTEER PCLs EVENING MEETING on 4/26/2023
- [VIDEO LINK](#) for BERGEN PCLs MEETING on 4/27/2023
- [VIDEO LINK](#) for UNION PCLs MEETING on 5/3/2023
- [VIDEO LINK](#) for SPANISH PCLs MEETING on 5/3/2023
- [VIDEO LINK](#) for ESSEX PCLs MEETING on 5/4/2023

RESOURCES SHARED AT PCL MEETINGS

- [Directory Deep Dive](#) – Next cohort begins on June 14th (English @ 10am / Spanish @ 7:30 pm). Click on the link for more information.
- [Annual Report](#) – Following up with individual parishes – Then with regional bishops. Please submit your Annual Report as soon as possible.
- **American Bible Society Grant** – Application process and timeline coming soon!
- [NET Ministries](#) – available for retreats - Click on the link for more information.
- **Eucharistic Revival Resources** – [USCCB Resources](#) | [Archdiocese of Newark Parish Resource Page](#)
- [First Holy Communion Novena](#) – For Families to Pray Together and Prepare
- [THE FORUM](#) – Save the dates: June 6th and 7th – NEW LOCATION! The presenter is Fr. Herald Brock, CFR. Click on the link for more information.
- [RICA – Adult Faith Formation Sessions](#) begin May 19th
- [Information Meetings for the Permanent Diaconate Formation Programs](#) – Spanish and English.
- Spotlight on New Testament in Spanish – August 21st and 23rd – Save the Date
- [Mercy House](#) - service opportunities
- [Pastoral Ministry with Persons with Disabilities](#) - Update: [Tips and Tools on Disability - Free Catechist Training](#) - Sat, 06/10/2023 - 12:00 to 6:00pm
- [Maker's Space](#) – Online interest form to be completed by May 15th

ADULT FAITH FORMATION LEADERS MEETING

- June 15, 2023 (Two Meeting Options) – [CLICK HERE FOR DETAILS AND TO RSVP](#)
- **Focus:** current mental health challenges faced by adults and practical strategies/resources to accompany them more effectively. How can RCIA/AFF Leaders best support those suffering from depression, anxiety, addiction, and/or suicidal ideation?
- All who accompany adults at your parish are welcome (Coordinators/Leaders of RCIA, Baptism Prep, Marriage Prep, Bible Study, Young Adult Ministry, Bereavement, Prayer/Faith Sharing Groups, etc.).
- [Click here for a flyer to share at your parish!](#)

FROM THE RCAN PASTORAL BULLETIN

- **Observing the Ascension of the Lord; Pentecost Sunday Return of the Chalice**
 - The Ascension of the Lord will be celebrated in the Archdiocese of Newark (and throughout New Jersey) on Sunday, May 21.
 - Also, the distribution of the Blood of Christ is to resume in parishes throughout the Archdiocese no later than Pentecost Sunday, May 28.
 - [Please click here for more information.](#) If you have questions, call 973-497-4345 or email robert.evers@rcan.org.
- **Pro-Life Mass**
 - Join us to pray together as a pro-life community. The Respect Life Office will hold a Pro-Life Mass on Thursday, June 15, at 7 p.m. in Nutley's Holy Family Church. A reception will follow.
 - [Click here for more information](#) or contact Cheryl A. Riley at cheryl.riley@rcan.org to learn more.
- **Reminder: Next Steps in the Synod Workshops**
 - The Archdiocese will host workshops exploring the next steps of the Synod on Synodality at various locations throughout May and June. All clergy and lay faithful are invited.
 - [Read this flyer for the full schedule](#) and [click here to register for ONE session](#).
 - If you have questions, contact Kate Dodds at 973-497-4250 or kathleen.dodds@rcan.org.
- **Retreat for the Divorced, Separated, & Remarried**
 - The Office for Family Life Ministry will host a Spanish-language healing retreat for divorced, separated, and remarried couples on Saturday, June 3, from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Newark Pastoral Center.
 - Special guests include the Very Rev. Raphael J. Lee, JCL, Judicial Vicar of the archdiocesan Metropolitan Tribunal.
 - The retreat focuses on themes of healing, forgiveness, marriage annulment, and more.
 - [Read this flyer to learn more](#) and [click here to register](#). If you have questions, contact Yamilka Genao at yamilka.genao@rcan.org.
- **Mental Health Awareness Retreat**
 - The Office for Family Life Ministry will host a Spanish-language retreat to raise awareness and start conversations in local churches regarding mental health on Saturday, June 10, from 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Newark Pastoral Center.
 - This retreat is for anyone who wants to learn about faith and mental health but is especially recommended for priests, deacons, and pastoral leaders.
 - [Read this flyer to learn more](#) and [click here to register](#). If you have questions, contact Yamilka Genao at yamilka.genao@rcan.org.
- **Renewing Marital Love Retreat**
 - A Spanish-language retreat for couples to heal, restore, and renew their love will be held on Sunday, June 11, from 1 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Newark Pastoral Center.
 - The retreat will include talks, fellowship, prayers, activities, and much more.
 - [Read this flyer to learn more](#) and [click here to register](#). If you have questions, contact Yamilka Genao at yamilka.genao@rcan.org.
- **JerseyCatholic.org Events Page**
 - Did you know that hundreds of readers are visiting JerseyCatholic.org's Events page to discover what's happening in our Catholic communities?
 - JerseyCatholic.org, the Archdiocese of Newark news source, invites parishes to promote their events and post their flyers on its calendar. The events calendar allows for quick flyer uploads and is self-publishing upon approval.
 - [Click here to submit your event](#). Questions can be directed to Jaimie Winters at 973-497-4027 or jaimie.winters@rcan.org.

NATIONAL COMMUNITY OF CATECHETICAL LEADERS (NCCL)

Upcoming Free Online Conferences

- **May 17 – Catechesis for All Learners - [Click Here to Register](#)**
 - 1 p.m. Presentation: Include Us! It's Easier than You Think! with Charleen Katra
 - 2 p.m. Presentation: Seeing through God's Eyes in Ministry to Children with Differing Abilities with Sharon Urbaniak
- **May 18: New Methods & Approaches for Catechesis Today – [Click Here to Register](#)**
 - 1 p.m. Presentation: Faith Formation in Blended/Virtual Settings with Paul Sanfrancesco
 - 2 p.m. Presentation: "Oh, the Possibilities" – Children's Catechesis Today with Mariette Martineau
- [CLICK HERE to visit the NCCL Website](#) for details on all resources and upcoming opportunities.

NEW! YOUNG CATHOLIC PROFESSIONALS LAUNCH PARTY!

- Looking for a community with a professional focus grounded in Catholic values? Your 20s and 30s can be a confusing and lonely time, but they don't have to be. Come and see.
- Attend our YCP Northern NJ Launch Party on Thursday, June 1, 2023 in Morristown and join like-minded, mission-driven peers to find God in all things and seek excellence and joy in every area of your life.
- YCP, the nation's largest young professional Catholic network, brings together young workers and seasoned business professionals in a variety of programs to foster Catholic identity, encourage community, and inspire action.
- This event is free but registration is required. [Click here for more information and to register!](#)

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL 2022-2025

- **NEW! [New York Catholic Bible Summit](#)**
 - Saturday, June 3, 2023 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Iona University, New Rochelle, NY
 - This event will be centered on the Eucharist in the spirit of the Eucharistic Revival.
 - [Click here for more information and to register.](#)
- **NEW! [EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL PARISH LEADERS' GUIDE](#)**
 - The USCCB Parish Leaders' Playbook is now available in both English and Spanish. It can be downloaded for free.
- **NEW! [Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ - Liturgical Preparation Aid](#)**
 - The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ will be observed on June 11 this year.
- **[Array of Hope – BEHOLD](#)**
 - In partnership with the USCCB Committee on Evangelization and Catechesis and the National Eucharistic Revival, Array of Hope offers, in collaboration with the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal, a 3 night encounter with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.
 - The nights include talks, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass or Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and music provided by Array of Hope.
- **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:**
 - [Archdiocese of Newark Parish Resource Page](#)
 - [Revive with Fr. Agustino Torres, CFR](#) - Official podcast of the USCCB's National Eucharistic Revival
 - [Click here for resources and information from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops](#)
 - Article: [National Eucharistic Revival: Here's what you need to know](#)
 - [Click here for resources from Our Sunday Visitor](#)
 - [Your Guide To The National Eucharistic Revival Resources](#) – from Catholic Link – includes children's resources!

SOME MUST-HAVE TOOLS FOR CATECHISTS

- [The Catechist Handbook and Planning Guide](#) is an easy-to-use organization tool and reference resource that prepares catechists and religion teachers for their mission.
- [The Liturgical Calendar](#), a handy visual aid to hang up in every classroom or hand out to families, provides a beautiful and effective overview of the liturgical year for teachers, parents, and children

FYI - LOOKING AHEAD - CATECHETICAL SUNDAY 2023 – SEPTEMBER 17TH

- THEME: *“Come to me all you who labor and are burdened.”*
- This year's theme will highlight the invitation we receive from the Lord Jesus to follow Him and the promise that He doesn't want to add to our burdens; he wants to lighten them.

NEW! YOUTH MINISTRY SUMMER WORKSHOP SERIES

- Five weeks of Summer Workshops for all those that walk with the young church!
- Five consecutive Thursday nights at the St. John Paul II Youth Retreat Center from 7:30pm to 9pm
- We invite all those that currently “walk with the young church”, or those that want to learn more about youth ministry to join us for this Formation Series
- Topics Include: Developing/Creating Your Calendar/Events for the Year - Helping Teens Cope with Grief and Loss – Planning/Developing Topic Meetings – Planning/Running Icebreakers – Advertising/Getting the Word Out on Your Program
- [Click here for more information and to register](#)

FAMILY FAITH RESOURCES FOR UPCOMING FEASTS/LITURGICAL YEAR/THE CALENDAR YEAR

- [Helping Your Child/Teen Move Past Anxiety Live Webinar](#)
 - Featuring: Emily Bilek, PhD, ABPP and Debra Kissen, PhD, MHSA
 - Thursday, May 18, 2023 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm ET
 - Join child and adolescent anxiety experts for an open discussion on all things child/teen anxiety related in this live, free webinar.
 - The webinar will be in a Q&A format so come prepared with your questions and learn tips and strategies to help your child/teen move past anxiety.
 - [Click here to register and for more information.](#)
- **NEW! The Play and Pray Challenge**
 - The goal of our annual Play and Pray Challenge is to inspire families to do both, while also strengthening marriage and family life!
 - Beginning May 30th and ending on the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus on June 16th, families will be invited to:
 - Plan a Date Night
 - Plan a Family Fun Day
 - Proclaim Jesus Christ as the King of the Home
 - When families sign up to join the challenge, they will receive lots of ideas for date nights and family fun days, as well as everything needed to consecrate home and family to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.
 - [Click here to join the Play and Pray Challenge!](#)
- **[MAY SAINTS & FEASTS](#)** - Click on the link for a full list of saints and feast days for the month of May

- **May 28 - [Pentecost Sunday](#)**
 - Learn more about Pentecost with [these reflections and activities](#)
 - a [Pentecost Prayer](#)
 - [Nine things to do with your kids for Pentecost](#)
 - Bake some [Pentecost Flaming Cupcakes!](#)

- **May 29 - [Memorial Day](#)**
Share this [prayer](#) for [Memorial](#) Day and discover ways to [observe Memorial Day](#) with your Catholic family.

- **May 29 - [The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church](#)**
 - As the “[Mother of the Church](#),” Mary invites us to rejoice in the [motherly love](#) of the one who is [our model and our help](#).
 - Read a [mother's reflection on this feast day here](#).

- **May 31 - [The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary](#).**
 - Read about [the importance of the feast day](#)
 - [learn about the Magnificat](#)
 - [enjoy family activities and videos](#).

- **[Spring Ideas for Your Family](#)**
 - Springtime is here! Celebrate with [Ten May Ideas](#) for Catholic families.
 - Spend some quality family time outdoors and enjoy these fun [family activities](#) to celebrate Spring!

- **[Summertime Ideas for Your Family](#)**
Looking for something for your family to do this summer that also adds a sprinkling of faith to the mix?
 - There are [101 things to do](#) with your kids this summer!
 - *CathFamily.org* offers some fun [Summer Vacation Ideas](#).
 - Check out a [Summer Bucket List](#) for Catholic families from *CatholicMom.com*, or free [printable summertime activities](#) from *Sadlier.com*
 - Use these fun family [conversation starters](#) on your summer family trips!

- **[Upcoming Opportunities for Teaching the Faith](#)**
 - June 4 - [The Most Holy Trinity](#)
 - **June 11 - The [Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ \(Corpus Christi\)](#)**
 - **June 14 - [Flag Day](#)**
 - **June 16 - The [Most Sacred Heart of Jesus](#)**
 - **June 17 - The [Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary](#)**
 - **June 18 - [Father's Day](#)**
 - **June 20 - [World Refugee Day](#)**
 - **June 24 - The Nativity of [St. John the Baptist](#)**
 - June 29 - [Ss. Peter and Paul](#)

- **[JUNE SAINTS & FEASTS](#)** - Click on the link for a full list of saints and feast days for the month of June

We hope this information is helpful to you. Our office exists to support you in the catechetical ministry. Please let us know how we can best serve you.

- Bergen and Union County PCLs – contact Patty Rodriguez, Director, at Patricia.Rodriguez@rcan.org
- Essex and Hudson PCLs – contact Joanne at Joanne.DePasquale-Parent@rcan.org
- PCLs serving the Hispanic Community – contact Oswaldo at Luis.Sanchez@rcan.org
- For additional support, please contact our Administrative Assistant, Yalila at Yalila.Murillo@rcan.org