

OFFICE CLOSING: The diocesan and Catholic Messenger offices will be closed on Monday, May 29 in observance of Memorial Day.

CONTACT INFORMATION CHANGE

SS. John & Paul, Burlington and SS. Mary & Patrick, West Burlington have combined their parish offices into one.

Mailing address: 502 W. Mt. Pleasant St., West Burlington 52655-1128

Phone: 319-752-6733 or 319-752-8771

New office hours: 8 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Monday-Thursday

This new information also applies to St. Mary, Dodgeville. Email addresses remain the same for all three parishes.

WELCOME

The Diocese welcomes its two newest employees who joined us on April 17: Rosina Hendrickson and Maxine McEnany. Rosina is the Lifelong Faith and Lay Ministry Formation Coordinator. She can be reached at hendrickson@davenportdiocese.org, 563-888-4244. Maxine is the Human Resources and Risk Management Coordinator. Her contact information is mcenany@davenportdiocese.org, 563-888-4384.

LITURGY OFFICE

Listed below are the Episcopal Liturgies in June. The Communication Department is planning to stream these three services. Each service will be posted to the diocesan YouTube channel. More details will be forthcoming in the June Mini-Messenger.

Bishop Amos' Farewell Liturgy

According to the *Ceremonial of Bishops*, "When a bishop is transferred to another see or his resignation is accepted by the Roman Pontiff, it is proper that he gather his people at a liturgical service. In this way he can bid them farewell and with them give thanks for the blessings received from God during his episcopate" (#1156). Therefore, Bishop Amos will celebrate Solemn Vespers at St. Mary Church in Iowa City on Sunday, June 11, at 5pm. All are invited. A reception will follow.

Bishop-Elect Zinkula: Vespers

It is customary for the Bishop-Elect to celebrate Vespers with the people and clergy of his new diocese on the eve of his ordination. The episcopal regalia (miter, crozier, ring) are usually blessed at this time. Vespers is scheduled for Wednesday, June 21, at 7 pm. The liturgy will take place at St. John Vianney Church in Bettendorf. Due to the large interest, this will be a ticketed event; details are still pending.

Bishop-Elect Zinkula: Ordination

Bishop-Elect Zinkula's ordination to the Episcopacy will take place at St. John Vianney Church on Thursday, June 22, at 2 pm. Attendance at this liturgy is by invitation only.

DIOCESAN DIRECTORY

Updates have been made to the February edition. The updated Directory is posted to the website. Changes were made to the Administration, Priests and Parishes sections. It can be found under the Resources tab and select Restricted Resources. The password was sent in an email on February 22, 2017.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT

Two different Safe Environment Webinars will be offered three times each. This will be beneficial in learning and understanding what the diocesan requirements are. This is designed for the local Safe Environment Designee, pastor and principal.

Session 1 webinars will be reviewing the Diocesan requirements, policies, and procedures of the Safe Environment Program. Some topics covered will be: who is required to do Safe Environment, scenarios on how to handle certain situations, what do you do when someone wants to be an employee or volunteer at your location, using free

resources to get more information, Circle of Grace curriculum going forward. Do you know there is a policy and procedure if a parent or family member is on the sex offender registry? How do you handle this? Liability situations when someone uses your facilities. 3rd party businesses: what do you require from them to meet our Safe Environment requirements. To register click a link below.

July 25, 12:00 – 3:30 p.m.: #1, Option 1: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/226494279899830787>

August 1, 8:30 a.m. – Noon: #1, Option 2: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4164594186406886401>

September 19: 8:30 a.m. – Noon: #1, Option 3: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6490425217501938177>

Session 2 webinars will be on managing the VIRTUS database and Stonebridge Audit. How do you run reports? How do you know if someone is compliant in VIRTUS? What does the Red Caution check box mean? What numbers do you report on the Stonebridge Audit? What if I have a person that is active in Sept. but no longer active for our location, what do I do? Questions and demonstrations will be reviewed during these sessions. To register click a link below.

July 27, 8:30 a.m. – Noon: #2, Option 1: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1137957533511586817>

August 3, 12:00 – 3:30 p.m.: #2, Option 2: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3032970222030069249>

September 28, 12:00 – 3:30 p.m.: #2, Option 3: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1325106507187016193>

SOCIAL ACTION OFFICE

CRS Rice Bowl Donations Due: Thank you for using CRS Rice Bowl in your parish this Lent! The prayers and devotions that your community has offered through this program are bringing new life to our poorest and most vulnerable brothers and sisters in our own communities and around the world. Please submit your Rice Bowl collections promptly to the diocesan finance office, with a notation of Rice Bowl contribution. The 25% local share grants will be decided on June 22 and we want to have a full accounting of all the money collected. Thank you for your support.

Buy Ethical Trade: The new SERRV Spring/Summer 2017 catalog is now available. For a chance to buy Ethical Trade handcrafts and gourmet food items from disadvantaged producers around the world, go [here](#).

CCHD Intern: Daniela J. Bularzik has been selected as the new Catholic Campaign for Human Development Intern for the 2017/2018 school year. She will be working out of the Center for Worker Justice in Iowa City. Daniela is currently attending the University of Iowa majoring in Psychology with social work interest. Daniela is fluent in Spanish. Daniela is very passionate about serving the poor and fighting poverty. She loves working directly with people and has experience working with social service agencies. Please look for an article in *The Catholic Messenger* about Daniela and all past volunteers.

Available Grants: Application must be postmarked by May 31

- **Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl:** For those providing/supporting direct services to people who are hungry (first foot of social justice). If your parish or community would like to apply go [here](#).
- **Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD):** For those organizations and projects that promote systemic change (second foot of social justice). To apply please send your request in a 1-2 page letter along with the Catholic Campaign for Human Development Grant Agreement. To view grant criteria and obtain a copy of the agreement go [here](#).

Send to Diocese of Davenport, Social Action Office, 780 West Central Park Ave., Davenport 52804-1901. For questions call Loxi Hopkins, 563-888-4212.

2017 Respect Life Materials: Parishes interested in receiving a free Respect Life Packet must submit their order request by June 10 to Esmeralda Guerrero, guerrero@davenportdiocese.org. Please include the following information in your e-mail: 1) Parish name and address, 2) contact name, 3) contact phone number and 4) contact email address (if not the pastor or office contact).

The 2017 Social Action Summer Institute will not be held due to the USCCB's Convocation of Catholic Leaders that is taking place July 1-4 in Orlando. This event is by invitation only.

CRS Rice Bowl 2018 Materials Postcard/Poster: Parishes are to watch the mail for the CRS Rice Bowl Lent 2018 Materials Order. Please review and update your order quantities if needed otherwise you will be sent the same

quantity of materials you received this year. If you don't have any updates you still need to mail the postcard back to CRS.

Project Rachel is a confidential, post-abortion healing ministry of the Catholic Church offering hope and healing to women and men hurting from past abortions. Project Rachel staff understand the emotional pain that follows an abortion. To learn more please go [here](#). How you can help promote Project Rachel in your parish:

- Distribute the free brochure, “Peace Starts Here.” Call 563-888-4212 to receive.
- On your parish website put a link to the Project Rachel website
- Pray for women and men that have been affected by abortion
- Include weekly bulletin announcements

FAITH FORMATION OFFICE

Seeking Input for the 2018 Synod of Bishops on *Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment*: The Vatican is asking for input on the synod topic in order to develop the synod’s work document or *Instrumentum laboris*. All youth ministry and religious education/faith formation leaders are asked to complete an online survey by June 15. Watch your email for the link.

Catholics In Action: It’s time once again for this annual service experience for graduated 8th graders through graduated seniors. This year’s CIA will be held June 24-27 at Holy Trinity Catholic Jr./Sr. High School in Ft. Madison. For promotional materials and information on how to register, visit the [CIA webpage](#).

Catholics In Action – Family Style: Many of today’s families are looking for opportunities to serve together, and *CIA-Family Style* provides just such an experience. From July 13-17, families will gather at St. Mary’s in Pella to serve the Pella community and to grow in their Catholic faith. Children of all ages are welcome as well as families of all types and sizes. Last year two grandparents attended with their two grandchildren. If you know of a family or two in your parish that would welcome such an opportunity, download the flyer from the [CIA webpage](#) and share it with them. They’ll thank you for doing so!

MINISTRY FORMATION PROGRAM

MFP Courses: Classes are held at the Chancery in Davenport from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. or participants may instead choose to join one of the DVD small groups held at various locations throughout the diocese. Each small group location will determine its monthly meeting time. An application form and additional information may be found on the [MFP website](#). For information regarding the courses or the Ministry Formation Program contact [Marianne Agnoli](#) or 563-888-4242.

2017 Schedule

5/20/17: Canon Law: Fr. Paul Appel	6/17/17: Intro to Theology: Dr. Corinne Winter
7/15/17: Intro to Catechesis: Dr. Corinne Winter	8/19/17: Civil Law: Deacon Bob Glaser
9/16/17: Spiritual Themes: IlaMae Hanisch	10/7/17: Commissioning Liturgy

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY



On **May 9 at 11:00 a.m.** and **May 18 at 7 p.m.** the Religious Alliance Against Pornography (RAAP) will be presenting a **free** webinar entitled “**Marriage Crisis – Pornography’s Destructive Impact.**” Please click on the link for full details and registration link for this free webinar, [RAAP's Spring 2017 Webinar](#)

SAVE THE DATE -- Certification Training for the newly revised **PREPARE/ENRICH Couple and Parenting Inventories** on Friday, August 18, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at St. Patrick, Iowa City. This training is intended for clergy & lay ministers who prepare couples for marriage, couples who promote marriage enrichment in their parishes and parish leaders who are interested in helping parents build strong families. \$75 per person (\$90 per couple) includes all instructional materials, lunch and hospitality. Registration opening soon on the diocesan website. Click [here](#) for more information on the promotional flyer.

Diocesan Marriage Preparation Policies and Procedures: The new diocesan marriage preparation policies were promulgated on December 30, 2016 and applies to all couples beginning marriage preparation in the diocese after December 31, 2016. This policy is available on the diocesan website [here](#). Note that the diocesan Prenuptial Investigation form has been revised to reflect the new marriage preparation requirements. Access a fillable PDF form in English [here](#) and the Spanish fillable form [here](#).

Marriage Preparation: In the hope of helping to build a solid foundation for an enriching life-long marriage, engaged couples beginning preparation for the Sacrament of Matrimony in the Diocese of Davenport after December 31, 2016 will participate in the following preparation activities:

1. Initial personal interview with the priest, deacon or pastoral minister
2. Completion of an approved Premarital Inventory: FOCCUS, REFOCCUS or PREPARE/ENRICH
3. Follow-up meetings as determined by the minister.
4. Participation in a Marriage Preparation Instructional Program:
 - Sponsor Couple (preferred option)
 - Approved Diocesan Marriage Preparation Day/Weekend - see dates below
 - Approved On-line option (only under special circumstance – requires parish approval)
5. Participation in an approved Introductory Natural Family Planning Instruction-see options below
6. Completion of the pre-nuptial investigation form.
7. Post-wedding couple contact plan.

Marriage Preparation Instructional Programs: The Diocese of Davenport offers several marriage preparation program formats: Sponsor Couple (through your parish), One-day, Weekend (two-day), and Online (under special circumstances-with parish approval).

Sponsor Couple: It is preferred that those preparing for marriage meet with a trained parish Sponsor Couple. Contact [Marianne Agnoli](#) to schedule a training in your parish to serve in this important ministry with couples preparing for marriage.

Weekend and One-day:

August 5-6, 2017: Mt. Pleasant, St. Alphonsus, *registration deadline July 28*

October 7, 2017: Muscatine, SS Mary and Mathias, *registration deadline September 29*

Registration fee: *\$150 per couple*. The registration form and more information can be found on the [Marriage and Family webpage](#). If you have questions contact [Barb Butterworth](#) or 563-888-4240.

Online: Go [here](#) – to be used only under special circumstance with parish approval.

Marriage and Parenting Resource: Attached is the May issue of “Marriage Moments and Parenting Pointers.” These may be used in parish bulletins or as links on parish websites.

Natural Family Planning: Participation in a diocesan approved *Introductory NFP Instruction* is required for all engaged or civilly married couples of child bearing age preparing for marriage in the diocese. General information as well as method specific content is available in a variety of formats in both English and Spanish. A listing of diocesan approved NFP online and local instructional resources can be found [here](#).

Engaged couples are encouraged to begin NFP instruction at least four months prior to their wedding date and may select to participate in one or more of the options based on their individual level of interest or particular life circumstance. All diocesan NFP instructional resources are updated regularly with the latest version accessible through this [diocesan website](#). This link will also provide a list of any upcoming NFP instruction opportunities scheduled in the diocese. A current listing of these opportunities can also be found below.

Upcoming Free NFP Instruction: Beth and Al Budelier at Diocese of Davenport (780 West Central Park Ave., Davenport). All sessions on the following Sundays from 1:30-2:30 p.m.

June 4 August 6 October 1 December 3

Couples may register to attend one of these sessions by contacting Marianne Agnoli at 563-888-4242 or agnolim@davenportdiocese.org.

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN

To report child abuse contact: Iowa Department of Human Services Child Abuse Hotline: 800-362-2178 and if it involves clergy or church personnel also notify Alicia Owens, Victim Assistance Coordinator: 563-349-5002, vac@diodav.org or PO Box 232, Bettendorf, IA 52722-0004.

EASTERN CATHOLIC RETREAT FOR EASTERN IOWA

On the eve of Pentecost, Eastern Iowa will host its first-ever Eastern Catholic Retreat at St. Wenceslaus Church in Iowa City on June 3, 11:00 a.m.—6:30 p.m., presented by the Iowa Byzantine Catholic outreach of the Eparchy of Parma. The day features presentations about Christ and his Gospel from an Eastern Catholic perspective. Individuals and families are welcome. There will be programs for adults, teens, and kids. Daycare will be provided for toddlers. Lunch is included. The day will conclude with Evening prayer for the vigil of Pentecost. The event is free, but registration is required. For registration and more information, go [here](#).

Initiated in 2014 by the Eparchy of Parma and with the blessing of the Bishop of the Diocese of Davenport, the Eastern Catholic outreach in Iowa currently meets on Saturday evenings at St. Joseph Church in West Liberty. The retreat offers an opportunity to form the members of the outreach and to inform the larger community of Eastern Iowa about its Eastern Catholic presence.

EASTERN IOWA CONTEMPLATIVE OUTREACH

A Day of Silence and Prayer: May 6, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m., Our Lady of the Prairie Retreat. Cost of the day is \$30.00 and includes the great food always provided at the Prairie. See the attached registration form and register ASAP.

OUR LADY OF THE PRAIRIE RETREAT, WHEATLAND

To register contact: 563-336-8414 or olpretreat@gmail.com. All programs include a delicious homemade meal prepared with local and organic ingredients. To learn more about Our Lady of the Prairie Retreat visit www.chmiowa.org.

SPECIAL EVENT: *Coming to Peace* Book Reading: Mon, May 8 | 7:00pm. Humility of Mary Center, 820 W. Central Park Ave, Davenport. *Coming to Peace* is a hybrid conflict resolution method that was born out of core mediation practices from a variety of earth-based wisdom traditions and Buddhism. The essence of resolution lies in the recognition of the deep and unbroken connectedness that we share as human beings. This book shows how the processes of *Coming to Peace* meet those in conflict and provides them a pathway to reconciliation and wholeness. Free Will Offering. Isa Gucciardi, Ph.D., Founding Director, Foundation of the Sacred Stream

Embracing the Sacred Feminine: Thurs, May 11 | 1:00pm – 3:30pm. Join us for an early celebration of Mother's Day as we reconnect with the power of the Sacred Feminine and explore our relationship to it in meditation and reflection. This presentation is open to both men and women. \$30. Isa Gucciardi, Ph.D., Founding Director, Foundation of the Sacred Stream

The Path of Service and the Nature of Suffering: May 12 – May 13 | Fri, 5:00pm – Sat, 3:30pm. This retreat explores the Buddhist understandings about the nature of suffering contained in the Four Noble Truths. It also examines the path of service of the Bodhisattva, a person who seeks to help others understand how to find freedom from pain. We will look at how the commitment to this type of service changes our psychological orientation and offers us deeper teachings about the nature of service. Fee: \$150. Isa Gucciardi, Ph.D., Founding Director, Foundation of the Sacred Stream.

Come to the Quiet: Tues, May 16 | 9:30am – 3:30pm. **St. Brendon** lived his life as a pilgrim. His prayer gives us courage to do the same, *Help me to journey beyond the familiar and into the unknown. Give me the faith to leave old ways and break fresh ground with You.* Fee: \$20 Pat Shea

Visio Divina through Film: Tues, May 16 | 5:30pm light supper followed by 6:00pm film, *The Diving Bell and the Butterfly*. Named Best Picture of the Year and nominated for 4 Academy Awards. Based on a true story of renowned editor Jean-Dominique Bauby, whose love of life and soaring vision shaped his will to achieve a life without boundaries. (English sub-titles, 112 minutes) Fee: \$15

Lectio Divina through Current Writers: Sun, May 28 | 2:30pm – 4:30pm. Book for Lectio: *12 Steps to a Compassionate Life* by Karen Armstrong. In simple practiced steps we learn to see our family, friends, and world

with new eyes, and confidently take action to be the world we wish for others. Every day, all day. Fee: \$15. Linda Clewell, Oblate of St. Benedict

Weaving Prayers and Baskets: Thurs, June 1 | 9:00am – 4:00pm. Learn simple basket weaving in the context of prayer and meditation. Make a 6.5x12.5 Tote Bag for all your summer outings. Limited to 8 participants. Fee: \$30 Kathleen Storms, SSND

Knit One, Pray Too!: Tues, June 13 | 9:30am – 3:30pm. Seasoned knitters and novices are invited to bring their latest projects for a tranquil day of needlework, sharing and praying while enjoying the seasonal serenity of The Prairie. Fee: \$20 Karen Brooke, Ann Green & Anne Johnson

Come to the Quiet: Thurs, June 15 | 9:30am – 3:30pm. Dorothy Day, founder of The Catholic Worker Movement, committed her life to help the outcasts of society. Her passionate service to others beckons us to corporal works of mercy which she called, *duty of delight*. Fee: \$20. Pat Shea

Retreating into the Universe Story and Laudato Si: June 16 - June 22 | Fri, 5 pm –Thurs, 10 am (after brunch) Pope Francis in his encyclical *Care for our Common Home* has sparked a greater interest in how each of us is encouraged to become more mindful of our relationship with Earth. Using this and other resources, plus quiet time in The Prairie beauty, we will explore more deeply how the Universe Story is the foundation for an awakening consciousness of Earth as a primary revelation of the Divine. We will look at basic principles and characteristics that will guide us to a wholistic, feminine and integrated relationship with all beings and parts of creation. The goal of this retreat is to move us from contemplation to action in our care for our common home. Limit 12 participants. Fee: \$500. School Sisters of Notre Dame Presenters

Lectio Divina through Current Writers: Sun, June 25 | 2:30pm – 4:30pm. Book for Lectio: *Paradoxology* by Miriam Therese Winter. Science and spirituality are not opposites. They blend and become both matter and space. Unbelievable? The author uses lyrical prose in guiding us to suspend our beliefs and enter into a realm of mystery. Fee: \$15. Presenter: Linda Clewell, Oblate of St. Benedict

BENET HOUSE RETREAT CENTER/ST. MARY MONASTERY, ROCK ISLAND, IL

Contact Sr. Jackie Walsh, OSB at 309-283-2108, retreats@smmsisters.org or online at <http://www.smmsisters.org/retreats/> to register for programs mentioned below.

A Retreat Featuring Richard Rohr and the Legacy of St. Francis: May 4 (Registration: 6-6:45; Opening: 7 pm) - May 7 1:00 pm. Richard Rohr, the best-selling author and speaker can't be present to direct a retreat! However, he will be present through his DVD video presentation on the Legacy of St. Francis. In five video segments you will explore a Christian faith informed by contemplation, mysticism, compassion, justice and centuries of rich, Christian history. This 3-day retreat will include time for quiet reflection, group discussion of Rohr's presentations, community prayer and full immersion into Franciscan spirituality. Fee: \$340. Commuter fee: \$217, includes meals.

Bee-Attitudes: Buzzing with Jesus!: May 13 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM. A renewal day for adults and adolescents with developmental disabilities. Family members, friends and caregivers are also welcome to attend. Join us for a day filled with fun, sharing, activities, singing, and prayer. Bring a sack lunch and be ready to celebrate!!! Presenters: Deacon Steve and Kathy MacDonald and team. Fee: \$20/family 2-3; \$10 individual.

Women's Retreat: The Art of Pausing: Jun 23 6:30 PM - Jun 25 12:00 PM. Is it possible to pause periodically during our busy days and still be productive? Throughout the ages the greatest spiritual thinkers, including St. Benedict, often talked of the need for pausing and practiced this art in their lives. Those following the Rule of St. Benedict talk about leisure as being 'holy'. There is also an ancient Benedictine motto that says "Cut back, it will grow stronger." But how do we know what to cut back on and how can we find the time to do it? This retreat will offer practical ways, based on monastic practices, to slow down, find greater balance, and to reboot and recharge. Through quiet reflection, prayer and discussion this retreat will help you nurture your life and to 'pause.' Presenter: Judith Valente, Benedictine Oblate, journalist, author and correspondent for PBS-TV and NPR Affiliate WGLT-Radio in central Illinois. Fee: Register and pay in full by May 23: \$230 (private room), \$215 (shared room). Registrations after May 23: \$245 (private room), \$230 (shared room). Commuter fee: \$155, includes lunch, dinner and brunch.

Catholic Princess Retreat: Jun 27 8:30 AM - 3:00 PM. This retreat is designed to instill in girls from kindergarten - 4th grades a sense of their dignity as daughters of God, and to remind them of their beauty and honor God's world. The retreat will teach the girls that every person is made in the image and likeness of God, with a unique personal beauty. Fee: \$10 for materials.

Girls' Be a Catholic Sister for a Day: Jun 28 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM. Spend a fun-filled day at St. Mary Monastery with other girls entering 5th - 8th grades. This great day includes meeting and praying with Benedictine Sisters, making arts and crafts, playing games, enjoying friends and food. Learn how wonderful a life focused on God can be! Fee: \$10 for materials.

SHALOM SPIRITUALTY CENTER, DUBUQUE

To register call 563-582-3592 or send check payable to Shalom Spirituality Center with your contact information to: 1001 Davis St., Dubuque, IA 52001. www.shalomretreats.org, info@shalomretreats.org

Walking the Path of Beauty: Following Jesus in The Franciscan Spirit (Retreat): Thursday, June 1, 5:30 PM — Tuesday, June 6, 9:00 AM. This preached retreat explores the unique Franciscan path of beauty as a way to follow Jesus in our world today. Offering: Overnight: \$455. Commuter: \$400. Includes 4 lunches & 5 dinners. Register by Thursday, May 25.

To support the ministry of your parish, school and the diocese these groups automatically receive the *Mini-Messenger*:

Deacons	Diocesan Corporate Board	Youth Ministers	Pastoral Associates	Directors/Coordinators of Faith Formation
Parishes	Catholic Foundation Board	Sisters	RCIA Parish Contacts	Diocesan Liturgical Commission
Priests	Parish Lay Directors	Bookkeepers	Diocesan Board of Education	Diocesan Planning Commission
Seminarians	Diocesan Pastoral Council	Principals	Parish Life Coordinators	

Other interested persons are welcome to subscribe. If you have questions regarding your subscription contact Laurie Hoefling, hoefling@davenportdiocese.org.

Marriage Moments & Parenting Pointers May 2017

FOR MORE extended marriage and parenting articles, plus archived Marriage Moments and Parenting Pointers, go to:
www.SusanVogt.net***BLOG:** *Living Lightly.* www.SusanVogt.net/blog

TWITTER: [@Vogt_Susan](https://twitter.com/Vogt_Susan) ***EDUCATORS, LEADERS, & MINISTERS:** You are welcome to reprint these MM's and PP's in bulletins, newsletters, and on your website with proper credit, (By Susan Vogt, www.SusanVogt.net). When used on a website, please also link to my website: www.SusanVogt.net

MARRIAGE MOMENTS

727. May 1: "Two of Jesus' disciples were walking to a village seven miles from Jerusalem called Emmaus and they were talking about all the things that had occurred." (Luke24:13) Take a walk today. Talk. Be conscious of Jesus' presence.

728. May 8: The couple that shops together - may learn something. Many women enjoy shopping as an "experience" while many men shop with a "hunter" mentality (get what you need as quickly as you can.) Although these are stereotypes and not always true, shopping together can often be frustrating. Just once try shopping as a date. Enter into your beloved's world and learn something new about them.

729. May 15: Mother's Day "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." (Jn 15: 13) In addition to Jesus, who has given their life for you? Perhaps it is your mother, or someone who has been like a mother to you. As a spouse, be mindful of laying down your life each day for your beloved.

730. May 22: "If you love me..." (John 14:15) If you love me, you'll clean the bathroom, watch the kids, make enough money to support us...The list can be endless - and so is love. What would your beloved love you to do for them today? It's OK to ask. Mind reading not required.

731. May 29: Memorial Day. To serve country, spouse, or God is to give your life because of your love. Dying for a good cause is a great sacrifice, but sacrificing time and spending energy in the service of your beloved counts too. Serve your spouse in an unexpected way today.

PARENTING POINTERS

727. May 5: The first week of May is both [Children's Book Week](http://everychildareader.net/cbw/) (<http://everychildareader.net/cbw/>) and [Screen-Free Week](http://www.screenfree.org/). (<http://www.screenfree.org/>) Why not let these two themes support each other. Ask your child if they'd be willing to substitute a book for screen time? If you missed the start of the week, never fear, the week can start when your family is ready. This applies to you parents also.

728. May 12: "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone." (1 Peter 2:7) Do you or your child ever feel rejected? Sooner or later everyone has this experience. It doesn't feel good but it's not the end of the world. When appropriate, share with your child a time that you felt rejected and how you grew from it.

729. May 19: "Families can be really healthy only when children once again have communities of real people who care about them." (Mary Pipher) Who are the caring community of people who surround your child? What child needs *your* family to care?

730. May 26: Ramadan (<http://www.nbcnews.com/news/religion/what-ramadan-six-things-know-about-muslim-holy-month-n586426>), a Muslim season similar to the Christian Lent, begins at sundown tonight. No matter what religion one is (or none), it's well to know how others approach the concept of God and faith. Don't let your child be ignorant.



EASTERN IOWA CONTEMPLATIVE OUTREACH RETREAT

A Day Apart

May 6, 2017

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Our Lady of the Prairie Retreat House, Wheatland, IA



Join us for a day of silence and Centering Prayer.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

Please list any dietary modifications you require:

Please list any physical modifications you require:

Registrations are due on or before May 1, 2017

Please include \$30.00 for each registrant. Make checks out to *Eastern Iowa Contemplative Outreach* and send them to:

Mr. Larry Decker
1785 Hartford Ct.
Bettendorf, IA 52722