



# acpm NETWORK

## *From Our President ... Address Given at the February 25 Annual Business Meeting*

Greetings to All,

This has been a wonderful year. I've served with delightful people on the coordinating committee who have worked so hard to serve you better. Thanks to all of you for working so closely with me to share your time, energy, and vision for catechetical and pastoral leaders in this diocese. Thank you to the CCE Office and the Office of Youth Ministry for your continued support and companionship. You are a gift to acpm and the entire diocese.

In September the Coordinating Committee gathered to work out a plan to implement the goals that were mapped out last year for our organization. You told of your feelings of frustration and isolation — that you were doing this ministry alone. What you needed were times to gather with other catechetical and pastoral leaders to be of support to one another. The way that we believe we could be of most help is to offer gatherings for fellowship and spiritual growth opportunities.

We believe that communication is our greatest gift. That is why, through the hard work of Nannette Coons, we established our acpm web site to facilitate communication among members concerning local and national is-

sues.

While we call this a business meeting, we are also gathering for fellowship and renewal. We are fortunate today to have Bishop Joe Vasquez to inspire and counsel us in ways we can grow in our relationships with our pastors and other colleagues.

A day of prayer called *Retreat with the Potter* has been developed by acpm and will be given in the Central Deanery this May. We are happy to be of service in this way. If you are interested in having this retreat day in your deanery or vicariate, please call any Coordinating Committee member, and he or she will be glad to help get you started.

We brought the retreat *Shepherding the Shepherds*, to this diocese in January. If there is enough interest, we can bring it back.

We also hosted a social gathering the Monday evening before Catechetical Leadership Days at the Christian Renewal Center. It was great fun and we will host another gathering on Monday evening, August 4. Please plan to attend

Be at peace my friends and know that God loves you and blesses you in your ministry.

Mary Jo

MARCH 2003

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Jean Johnson  
Kathy Kelley

#### NCPD Representative

Kathy Kelley

#### CCE Liaison

Anne Comeaux

#### OYM Liaison

Brian Johnson



#### Send articles to:

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Email: [enotz@stlaurence.org](mailto:enotz@stlaurence.org)

## SCHOLARSHIPS OFFERED

acpm Scholarships for  
Continuing Education in Ministry

Deadline for Application — April 30

Three scholarships are offered: (2) for \$250.00; (1) for \$75.00

*Who may apply?* — Any member of acpm



### Criteria for Scholarship Application:

- Demonstration of financial need
- Commitment to complete studies in catechetical ministry
- Current active participation in parish ministry
- Agreement to serve at one (1) diocesan activity, such as Catechist Days, a catechist formation session , etc.
- Agreement to report to acpm membership at the annual business meeting

For applications or further information contact any member of the acpm Coordinating Committee or check out our website at [www.acpm-galhouston.org](http://www.acpm-galhouston.org)

## *Dream by the River: Faithful Past, Faith-Filled Future*

National Association of Parish Catechetical Directors

11<sup>th</sup> Annual NPCD National Convocation  
in conjunction with the beginning of the  
NCEA Centennial Celebration

**April 22-25, 2003 — St. Louis, Missouri**  
Adam's Mark Hotel and Convention Center



Ease into Convocation with Taize Prayer — Tuesday Afternoon

Enjoy stimulating general sessions — practical workshops — moving prayer services —  
complimentary meals and receptions — and much, much more!!

***DO NOT FORGET our REGIONAL MEETING — Wednesday morning, 9:00 A.M.***

Our hospitality committee will let you know our dinner plans  
for Wednesday evening and sightseeing trip on Saturday

### **Shepherding Shepherds**

by Dan Schweiterman

Catechetical Leaders gathered for a retreat at the Cenacle on Jan. 16/17 to "care" for each other's growth in our church catechetical ministry. These were shepherds who had been shepherding 25 years or more and those who had just recently started. The retreat was aimed to help reflect on our ministry as peers. Many of us arrived tired and wondering if it was a good idea to take time from our busy schedules to "retreat". Kathy Kelly, (Good Shepherd, present regional representative to the National Association of Parish Catechetical Directors) and Ann Brown (Ann Brown, Holy Ghost and past regional rep to NPCD) were the lead shepherds in this process where all at different points shepherded. We reflected on our joys and sorrows, fears and hopes in our ministry. Why were we in it, to whom, what visions did we have when we began, where are we now, and how do we continue to serve God's people and answer to our call? Through presentations, group reflections and sharing, around meals and through prayer we took a deeper look with our catechetical shepherds at our lives. Mary Jo Wilt (St. Michael's) reflected how the story of the disciples on the road to Emmaus models our lives: at times we are the disciples (learners) who need someone to walk with us to help our hearts burn. At other times we are the ones who like Jesus walk with disciples to set fire to their hearts. As the retreat drew to a close, Kathy Kelley reminded us that we are not just Disciples (learners) but we are also Apostles (root meaning from Greek - those sent out) to proclaim and teach the Good News (Mt. 28:16-20). Our Shepherding Shepherds retreat was living the tension of being both disciples and apostles in our catechetical ministry. Reflecting for myself, I left with my heart again burning. We thank the local Association of Catechetical and Pastoral Ministers (acpm) for hosting this retreat with us.

**PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIP FORM**

**acpm:** This is our LOCAL professional organization, an independent association of parish catechetical ministers in leadership roles, regardless of "title." Annual dues: \$30.00 per person, due September 1.

**NPCD:** This is our NATIONAL professional organization, a department of NCEA. It is the only grassroots organization solely for parish catechetical ministers. Annual dues: \$70.00 per person, first member; \$45.00 per each additional member.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

PARISH: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Parish Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

- I wish to join **acpm** at \$30.00
- I wish to join **NPCD** at \$70.00 (first member)
- I wish to join **NPCD** at \$45.00 (additional member)

***For your convenience, you may send one check to cover both memberships.  
Please make checks payable to ACPM.***

Mail checks to: Lucille Pavlock  
St. Kathrine Drexel  
1346 Wilkins  
Hempstead, TX 77445

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \_\_\_\_\_

Questions? Please call Lucille Pavlock at  
979-826-2275

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**St. Laurence Parish  
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3103 Sweetwater Blvd.  
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