



# ORE Connections December 2011

*From the Director's desk...* 

## The Last One Percent

The October snowstorm inconvenienced many people throughout the state. It affected us at Saint Mark the Evangelist in West Hartford for 12 days. A telephone pole behind the Parish Center toppled and left many wires on the ground. We called CL&P each day but got no response to our dilemma. I said Masses throughout the week and on two weekends with a flashlight. I even baptized 2 babies with warm water provided by one of the mothers.

It got to be too cold and dark living in the rectory so I moved to the convent on Park Road. The Sisters of Saint Joseph were very good to me. They provided me with a room and good food.

I believe that we in Connecticut were very fortunate to have had mild weather throughout the ordeal. I believe that if temperatures were below zero there would have been many broken pipes and many deaths. God was good to us.

The lack of electricity helped me to appreciate how busy we are on a regular basis. Too many people throughout the world do not have the luxuries that we take for granted, heat and light. Finally, one of the parishioners, a retired firefighter, contacted the fire chief of West Hartford on our behalf.

The Chief came with a representative of CL&P. The power company thought that the Church had power because everyone else on South Quaker Lane did. They said that they had no record of us calling each day, although several people did call on our behalf from different telephones.

After 12 days without power we did get a good response. Six trucks and a multiplicity of workers labored for several hours to restore us to power.

Thanks be to God.

*Monsignor Motta*

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[segjm@yahoo.com](mailto:segjm@yahoo.com)

Catholic Girl Scouting Chairperson  
Marjorie Luzzi  
[mlalliance@cox.net](mailto:mlalliance@cox.net)

# Catholic Biblical School

## The Prophets of Advent



The prophetic literature contains some of the most spiritually rewarding material in the Old Testament. At the same time, the prophets pose a number of unique challenges to those who read them and encounter them in the liturgy. In this lecture, Dr. Harry Nasuti, Professor of Old Testament at Fordham University, will explore some ways of experiencing the power and beauty of these important texts. The lecture will pay particular attention to the prophetic readings that play such a significant role in our liturgies during the Advent season.

**Time: December 11, 2011, 1:00-3:00 p.m.**  
**("Coffee and" at 12:30)**

**Place: The Archdiocesan Center at St. Thomas Seminary**

*Biblical School graduates, their guests, and other parish and archdiocesan leaders are invited to attend this afternoon, designed for ongoing growth in understanding God's Word. There is no fee for this program. It is essential, though, that all participants register with the Office of Religious Education by **Friday, December 2, 2011**. (Forms can be mailed, faxed, or emailed. Call Jill Costa for details.)*

## Save the Dates!

Continuing education for graduates and friends will resume in March, weather permitting. Don't forget to mark your calendars for the following opportunities to enrich your devotion to God's Word: **March 25, 2012, 12:00-4:30 pm: *Is Natural Disaster God's Punishment for Sin?*** Open to the public, our 2012 "Celebration of Sacred Scripture" features Sr. Dianne Bergant, senior professor at Chicago's Catholic Theological Union.

**April 28, 2012, 9:30 am-noon: *The Resurrection Body according to Paul and his Successors.***

Intended for Biblical School graduates and others with background in the New Testament, Dr. Adela Yarbro Collins of Yale Divinity School will be our speaker.

## Reminder for CBS Students in Year 2

Mark your calendars for **May 29, 2012, 7:30-8:30 p.m.** for the Office of Religious Education Award Ceremony. Students who have completed all requirements in Years 1 and 2 of the Biblical School will receive their Certificates in Basic Biblical Studies at St. Mark the Evangelist Parish in West Hartford on that evening. Invite your friends and family to attend with you! *If you're not sure whether you qualify for this certificate, consult your teacher (for information about this year's progress) and BJ Daly Horell (for information about your progress in Year One).*

## Reminder for CBS Students in Year 4

Mark the following dates on your calendars for a memorable and enriching conclusion to your Biblical School journey:

- **June 2, 2012, 8:30-2:30 pm: *Mount Nebo Day of Retreat and Reflection***
- **June 10, 2012, 3:00-5:30 pm: *Graduation Ceremony and Reception***

*All students who have completed four years of the Biblical School are invited to participate in both events, which will take place at the Archdiocesan Center at St. Thomas Seminary in Bloomfield.*

## We Want Your Proverbs

For publication on the CBS Blog, please send us original proverbs that (1) are *written in the biblical style* of the Book of Proverbs and (2) engage the demands of lived Christian spirituality for today. Within the limits of the editor's time and imagination, all entries will be posted on our blog at <http://bjdhorehartford.blogspot.com>, with your by-line (or anonymous, if you prefer). Send your proverb and your name, as you prefer it to appear, to BJ at [cbs@orehartford.org](mailto:cbs@orehartford.org). Entries will *not* be returned.

## And Another Blogging Opportunity!

*Living and Leading in God's Word* is a new blog series that seeks to highlight the wonderful work that CBS graduates are doing throughout the Archdiocese. If you are a Biblical School graduate, or you know someone who is, send the story (in one paragraph) to BJ Daly Horell at [cbs@orehartford.org](mailto:cbs@orehartford.org). Let our faith community celebrate all that the Biblical School has helped to accomplish on behalf of the reign of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

## Biblical School Course Scheduling Note



Christmas break extends for three weeks this year. The last week of class before Christmas will be **December 12-16, 2011**. We will reconvene all classes the week of **January 9-13, 2012**. Check your CBS academic-year calendar or go to [www.orehartford](http://www.orehartford) and click on "Calendar" at the top of the page. (Feel free to contact Jill Costa for step-by-step instructions for accessing the CBS online calendar.)

## **J. Inka Peczerski, Biblical School Class of 2011**

Our dear friend Inka was called to new life in Jesus on November 16, 2011. As we mourn the loss of our companion in faith, we also celebrate the dynamic spirit she brought to our midst and keep Inka and her children and grandchildren in our prayers. We will miss you, Inka!



## ADULT FORMATION/ EVANGELIZATION/ RCIA

### RCIA Workshop



Our third RCIA In-Service Workshop will be held on **Saturday, January 21, 2012** from 9:00 am to 12 noon at the Archdiocesan Center at St. Thomas Seminary. The topic will be the period of Purification and

Enlightenment. Our presenter is Ms. Lisa Orchen. To register call Mary Marsan at the Archdiocesan Office of Religious Education, 860- 243-946, e-mail her at [mmarsan@adh-ore.org](mailto:mmarsan@adh-ore.org).

### Save the Date- RCIA

The Rite of Election and the Call to Continuing Conversion will be held on **Sunday, February 26, 2012**, 3 pm at the Cathedral of St. Joseph, in Hartford. Please mark your calendar and check our newsletter in January for further information.

### Lay Ministry Formation Program

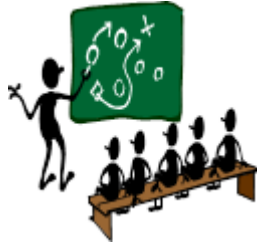
Do you know any lay people who are active in your church in various ministries, but need some training? Our next Lay Ministry classes will begin in **September 2012**. The Lay Ministry Program could enhance your parish life by providing training for the lay volunteer. The Lay Ministry program is an 18 month formation program that includes classes in theology, spiritual development and pastoral skills as well as a parish internship. For more information check our website, [www.orehartford.org](http://www.orehartford.org) or call Mary Marsan at 860-243-9465.



## Youth Ministry

### Youth Ministry Basics WEEKEND Class - mini retreat

Learn some techniques for starting or updating your ministry with young people. Network with others for new ideas and future collaborations. Classes (12 in the series) can be taken for credit or for general faith formation.



Graduates receive a certificate in May. Great for all levels of catechists and youth ministry volunteers. OR Join us for the weekend and make your own retreat and we'll see you at meals!!

**January 6-8, 2012.** Trinita Retreat Center 595 Town Hill Road, New Hartford: Starts at 6:00 with light supper. Ends on Sunday @2:30pm. Cost is \$135.00 pp. This cost includes lodging- bring your own towels, sheets or sleeping bag, and 6 meals. Anyone joining us to makeup other classes incurs an additional \$50.00 charge. We will break for Mass on Sunday. Please contact Shawnee before Christmas or no later than **January 3<sup>rd</sup>** to register.

### Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday (Feb 5, 2012)



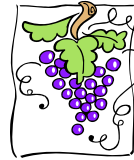
Never too early to begin planning for this yearly event. You collect the money or the food at your school or parish and donate it to your own local charity. Plan a service blitz that weekend and make a difference in your community and still be on your couch by 6:00 for the kickoff!!

### Youth Charity Dance

St James Church and Sharon Gagne are busy planning the **13th Annual Charity Dance on January 14 at St. James Church in Rocky Hill.** The snow date is January 21<sup>st</sup>. The benefiting Charity this year is **Channel 3 Country Camp.** It will be a **beach themed dance.** Flyers are in the process of being created. Let us know if you want some for distribution to your youth. Contact Sharon at [sgpoohbear@aol.com](mailto:sgpoohbear@aol.com)



### Wine, Worship, and Psalms: Taste and See the Goodness of the Lord



We need your input as we plan retreat and networking days for those who work with youth. What can we provide that will spark your interest and guarantee your attendance? Week night? Weekday? On a Saturday? Whole day? ½ day? Overnight? Let Shawnee know if you want to help plan these programs.

### Disciple Project - No Freeze Shelter



The Immaculate Conception Shelter is incredibly grateful for all that we do. Without the food groups, they would not be able to provide necessary services for the men. The City of Hartford has called upon Immaculate

Conception to run the "No Freeze" Shelter again within the church building at 560 Park Street. The regular shelter will be moved upstairs to the church space, and the "No Freeze" Shelter will be in the basement. Beginning **Tuesday, November 22, 2011**, the total number of beds in both shelters will be 150. In order to provide the same hot dinner to all 150 men, please see if you can assist with various options:

If your food group is willing and able to serve 150 men rather than 80, please let Allison know that you would like to cover both the regular shelter and "No Freeze" Shelter dinners on the date for which you have already signed up.

If providing the extra meals is a hardship on your group, please contact Allison as soon as possible. She will work with your group to provide enough for everyone. She will need to know your menu in advance so that she can match the dinner menu on both floors.

If you would like to partner with another food group, please contact Allison so she can send you the list of dates that they will need a second group to assist.

Alison Baldree - Food Group Coordinator & Shelter Case Manager (860) 724-4823 ext. 602  
[alisonb@icshc.org](mailto:alisonb@icshc.org)

## Other News

### Evenings of Discernment with Prayer for Peace

Opportunity for: Catholic Women and Men Considering Vowed Life or Priesthood, ages 18-45, 7:30-9:00 pm, 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the Month **January 24, 2012; February 28, 2012; March 27, 2012, April 24, 2012.** To register contact: Sr. Ann: 203-245-0401, [amcgovern@mercyne.org](mailto:amcgovern@mercyne.org)

### Our Lady of Calvary Retreat House

**December 1**, "Advent Evening of Reflection, 7-9, with Father Frascadore; **December 2-4**, "A Spiritual Weekend for Women in Recovery: **December 8**, "Mary's Advent Journey", 9-1 and 7-9 pm, with Marguerite Janelle; **December 16-17**, "Oh Sweet Jesus, Is There Hope for Us?: An Advent Retreat", with Noranne Wamester. **January 8**, 2:45, "Celebration of Giving", **February 16-19**, "Winter Silent Directed Retreat" Check out these and their theme retreat weekends at [www.ourladyofcalvary.com](http://www.ourladyofcalvary.com).



HOLY FAMILY  
PASSIONIST  
RETREAT CENTER

Upcoming events: **December 2-4**; "Men's Matt Talbot Recovery Retreat", with Fr. Brian McGinley; **December 2-4**, "Advent Centering Prayer Retreat", with Fr. Bill Sheehan; **December 8**, 10-2 and 6-9 pm "Advent Program: Giving Birth to God - Advent with the Mystics", with Dr. Brandon Nappi; **December 9-11**, "Men's Matt Talbot Recovery Retreat", with Dcn. Thomas Evrard; **December 18**, 2:00 and 7:00 pm, "Music for Advent and Christmas" **January 6-8**, "Women's Retreat"; **January 13-15**, "Men's Retreat"; **January 20-22**, "Men's Retreat"; **January 25**, (day or evening) "Journey Within to the Place of Listening", with Deacon Arthur Miller; **January 27-29**, "Women's Retreat"; **February 1**, (day or evening), "How Have We Experienced the Changes in the Mass", with Fr. David Cinquegrani. For more information: [www.holyfamilyretreat.org](http://www.holyfamilyretreat.org).

### Caritas Christi Center



Upcoming events: **December 3**, "An Advent Day of Reflection", with Sr. Virginia Herbers; **December 6**, "An Advent Evening of Reflection"; **December 10**, "Ongoing Centering Prayer Group", with Sr. Carolyn Severino. **December 13, December 27, January 3, January 10**, "New Life Seminar: Separated and Divorced" For more information, go to [www.caritaschristicenter.org](http://www.caritaschristicenter.org).



Upcoming events: "Parish Social Ministry Leadership Series: Opportunities for Faith Formation", at St. Paul, Kensington. **June 9, 2012**, "Annual Social Justice Conference", in honor of Bishop Peter Rosazza Go to: [www.catholicsocialjustice.org](http://www.catholicsocialjustice.org)

## Catholic Scouting

### Boy Scouts

Due to the October snow storm, we had to cancel the Adult Award Banquet. This year's Bronze Pelican and St George awards will be presented at the Boy Scout Awards Ceremony at the Cathedral in April. For more information contact Jennifer at [jmclintock@adh-ore.org](mailto:jmclintock@adh-ore.org)



### Girl Scouts

On November 11/12, 2011 the Girl Scouts cancelled their retreat due to storm related issues. The new date will be **January 13 -14, 2012**. Because of this delayed start, we will be setting another date for the award ceremony to give the girls more time to work on their books. All girls who would like to work on their religious emblems are invited to join us. Please see the inserted flyer for more information or contact Jennifer for at [jmclintock@adh-ore.org](mailto:jmclintock@adh-ore.org)

## Spiritual Activity Day Saturday January 14, 2012



We would like to invite any Girl Scout in the 2nd to 12th grades who would like to work on their religious emblems to attend this retreat day. These spiritual activities will help you start on your booklet, as many of the activities will be covered that day. We will also be able to help you continue your journey after you leave us for the day. This retreat is a requirement for anyone working on their religious emblems. Girls who complete the program will be awarded their medal at a special ceremony on **June 3, 2012**.

# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

## Catechetical Leaders Survey

The results of the national Catechetical Leaders Survey are now available online for your information. Included are: academic credentials, parish responsibilities, salaries and benefits, support and staffing, professionalism, job satisfaction, perceived effectiveness and technology. This makes for some interesting reading. To access the results, go to:



<http://trresearch.web.officelive.com/default.aspx>

## University of Dayton Online Learning



Cycle 1 for 2012 will be from **January 8 – February 11**. Registration is open now and closes **January 4**. Most of the online courses are offered during Cycle 1. Take advantage and register now.

*Remember* – the Archdiocese of Hartford is a partner, so you get a significant discount. Check out the Certificates in Catechesis, Adult Leadership, and Youth Ministry. Go to <http://vlc.udayton.edu>.

## Religious Education Congress



Due to the weather and power outages, we had no choice other than to cancel the Congress, which had been scheduled for **November 5**. We tried to reach everyone. If we did not, then we apologize. We had no email, the Archdiocesan

Center was closed for over a week, we had one phone at the Chancery. It takes a year to re-schedule some of the speakers, so we will see you November of 2012. As soon as we finalize the date, we will let you know.

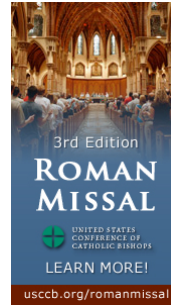
## Interactive Connections Conference

The third annual Interactive Connections Conference takes place **Monday January 23 – Thursday, January 26, 2012** at the Doubletree Orlando at Seaworld. The theme “Incarnating the Gospel in the Digital World” will bring together leading Catholic educators from around the world to explore the evolving role of technology in their ministries. A featured highlight and unique offering of the 3-day Conference will be spending

one or two days – at no additional cost with the FETC (Florida Education Technology Conference) in Orlando, one of the largest, most successful K to 12 conferences in the United States devoted to educational technology. For more info:

<http://www.intconnect.org>

## The New Roman Missal



Evening Retreat – “How Have We Experienced the Changes in the Mass?”, **Wednesday, February 1, 2012**, 10 am-2 pm or 6-9 pm at Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center in West Hartford. Retreat Offering: \$35 (day retreat includes lunch, evening retreat includes dinner. Presenter: Fr. David Cinquegrani, C.P. For more information or to register, go to

[www.holyfamilyretreat.org/calendar](http://www.holyfamilyretreat.org/calendar).

Free videos on USCCB – 29 videos (FREE!) to view on their new website. Go to [www.usccb.org/media/video](http://www.usccb.org/media/video) and click on “Roman Missal”.



Save the date! The annual conference will be held **January 5-7, 2012** in Orlando, Florida. It is hosted by the Center for Ministry Development and Our Sunday Visitor. This year’s theme is “Formed by Eucharist – Sent in Mission”. For more details and registration information, go to [www.cmdnet.org](http://www.cmdnet.org).

## DRE Connect

There is a new online community created by Loyola Press, specifically for parish faith leaders. It’s called DRE Connect. It allows you to connect, consult, and grow with other parish faith leaders. It offers you the chance to improve your professional skills and become a mentor for your peers. DRE Connect puts you in touch with the greater community of Catholic Faith Formation Leaders; allows you to share photos, events, and resources and more with your peers; and gives you the opportunity to pass along your passion for ministry as you share your knowledge with other DRE’s. Check out DRE Connect today. It only takes a minute to sign up for your FREE membership and begin connecting! Start sharing now at <http://dreconnect.loyolapress.com/home>.



**dre**  
connect

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A JESUIT MINISTRY

## Mid-Atlantic Congress

Save the Date! The Mid-Atlantic Congress for Pastoral Leadership, **March 8-10, 2012** at the Baltimore Hilton in the Inner Harbor. Keynoters



include Father James Martin, Most Rev. Gerald Kicanas, and Dr. Adele Gonzalez. Workshops on: adult catechesis, mass media, youth ministry, evangelization, liturgical catechesis, children's catechesis, music, scripture, spirituality and much more. For more information – [www.midatlanticcongress.org](http://www.midatlanticcongress.org).

In advance of the 2012 elections, the U.S. bishops reaffirmed their 2007 document, *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*, in this coming election cycle and beyond, as the “continuing teaching of our bishops’ Conference and our guidance for Catholics in the exercise of their rights and duties as participants in our democracy.” The USCCB is launching a new website for *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*: [www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/faithful-citizenship](http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/faithful-citizenship).



## Operation Rice Bowl

Order your Operation Rice Bowl materials today. You can place your order today, and your materials will be shipped on **January 3, 2012** (Note: no materials will be sent automatically, based on past orders). Operation Rice Bowl materials are designed to enrich your faith community's Lenten observance. Order free materials and join Operation Rice Bowl as we work together to build solidarity with our brothers and sisters around the world through the Lenten traditions of prayer, fasting, learning and giving. Materials are available in both English and Spanish. If you have not received an order form, call Linda Roberto at the Office for Catholic Social Justice Ministry at (203) 777-7279.



## HISPANIC MINISTRY

### Programa Arquidiocesana de la Formación Básica para Catequistas

Próxima Sesión: “*Cristología & Mariología*”

Martes 13 de diciembre  
6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.  
Seminario San Tomas  
467 Bloomfield Ave.  
Bloomfield, CT

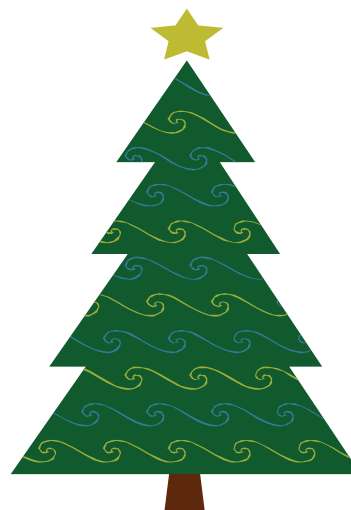
Miércoles 14 de diciembre  
6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.  
Parroquia San Anthony/ Sagrado Corazón  
25 Gold Street  
New Haven, CT

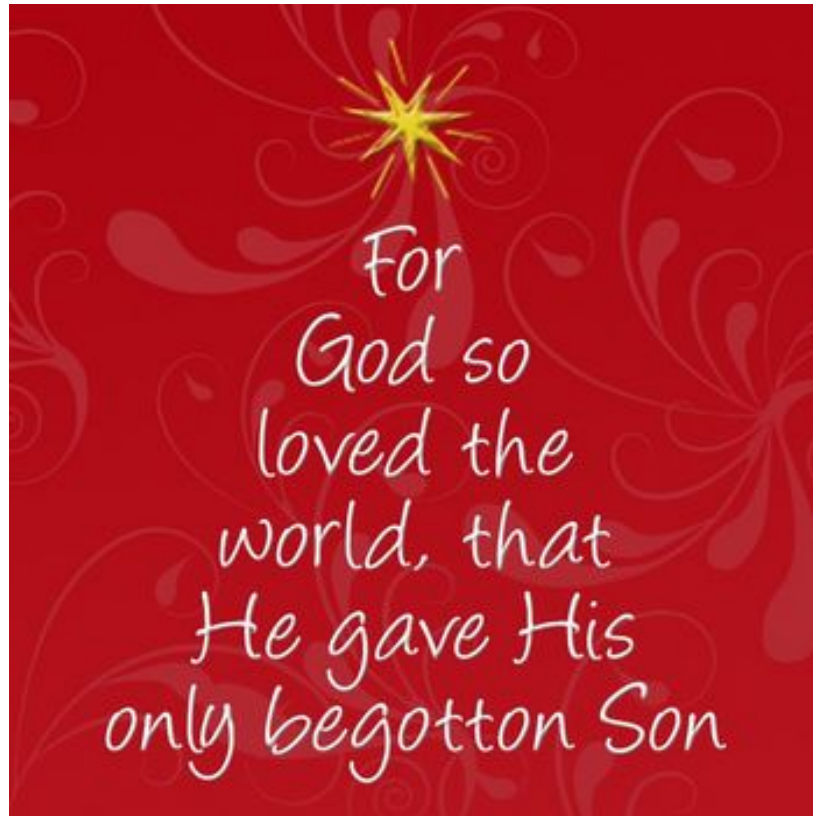
Jueves 15 de diciembre  
6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.  
Parroquia Santa Rosa de Lima  
35 Center Street  
Meriden, CT

Nota: inscripción para este programa esta cerrado.

### Para mayor información:

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**Coordinadora de la Catequesis Hispana**  
**Arquidiócesis de Hartford**  
**Tel: 860-243-9465**  
**Fax: 860-243-9690**  
**Email: [mhidalgo@adh-ore.org](mailto:mhidalgo@adh-ore.org)**





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