Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, Sunday, June 15, 2014
St. Albert Chmielowski, Tuesday, June 17, 2014
St. Romuald, Thursday, June 19, 2014
St. Aloysius Gonzaga, Saturday, June 21, 2014

Question of the Week
For the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi), June 22, 2014
“Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you.” The profound joy of having the life of the Son of Man within us! How long after you leave Mass does that joy last? How long before you forgot about His life within you and your human weakness shows itself? The next day? That afternoon? Before you even reach the church parking lot? What will you do to keep your focus on the life of Christ within you?

Saint of the Day: St. Albert Chmielowski
Source: http://www.americancatholic.org/Features/Saints/saint.aspx?id=1414&calendar=1

Born in Igolomia near Kraków as the eldest of four children in a wealthy family, he was christened Adam. During the 1864 revolt against Czar Alexander III, Adam’s wounds forced the amputation of his left leg. His great talent for painting led to studies in Warsaw, Munich and Paris. Adam returned to Kraków and became a Secular Franciscan. In 1888 he took the name Albert when he founded the Brothers of the Third Order of Saint Francis, Servants to the Poor. They worked primarily with the homeless, depending completely on alms while serving the needy, regardless of age, religion or politics. A community of Albertine sisters was established later. Pope John Paul II beatified him in 1983 and canonized him six years later.

Comment: Reflecting on his own priestly vocation, Pope John Paul II wrote in 1996 that Brother Albert had played a role in its formation “because I found in him a real spiritual support and example in leaving behind the world of art, literature and the theater, and in making the radical choice of a vocation to the priesthood” (Gift and Mystery: On the Fiftieth Anniversary of My Priestly Ordination, p. 33). As a young priest, Karol Wojtyla repaid his debt of gratitude by writing The Brother of Our God, a play about Brother Albert’s life.

Quote: The first reading at the canonization included Isaiah 58:6 (“Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?”). Referring to this passage, the Pope said: “This is the theology of messianic liberation, which contains what we are accustomed to calling today the ‘option for the poor’.... In this tireless, heroic service on behalf of the marginalized and the poor, he [Albert] ultimately found his path. He found Christ. He took upon himself Christ’s yoke and burden; he did not become merely ‘one of those who give alms,’ but became the brother to those he served...” (L’Osservatore Romano 1989, Vol. 49, No. 9).
NCCL News

From the Heart: A Tribute to the Larger-than-Life Lee Nagel by Tom Quinlan

(Tom is the Director of the Religious Education Office, Diocese of Joliet. He is a former member of NCCL’s Board of Directors; currently, he is co-chair of NCCL’s Evangelization Committee.)

Over the years, Lee Nagel served our diocese in a number of ways. He lead catechist formation events, gave leadership retreats and even facilitated a process for those involved in Catholic schools planning in the diocese a few years ago. Sadly, Lee passed away in late May, just a few days after overseeing another successful NCCL annual conference.

While Lee often expressed his fondness and appreciation for the Diocese of Joliet, our diocese was not unusual in having been blessed by his giftedness. The ultimate performer, a story-teller par excellence, a catechist's catechist, and man of deep faith, Lee was in great demand all across the country.

During his seven years as executive director of the National Conference for Catechetical Leadership, Lee Nagel generously continued to accept invitations to present in dioceses, something he so enjoyed doing. He loved to connect with people, to touch their hearts, bring them to laughter and tears as he endeavored to reveal the wide and beautiful panorama of God’s grace active in the world.

Lee had a wonderful career in the Green Bay Diocese as the head of Total Catholic Education long before I first met him. He was an advocate for Catholic schools and parish faith formation operating out of a common vision set forth in our universal Church’s and our nation’s catechetical documents. He would want us to continue to strive each day for this goal.

I had the joy of serving on the NCCL board that hired Lee back in 2007. I worked closely with Lee during his first three years in that role and in the ensuing years on various projects for the organization. Lee gave of himself so generously, even heroically, throughout his time as NCCL executive director. He loved the organization and believed in its mission to serve catechetical leadership in the U.S. He worked as a close partner with other national Catholic organizations and the USCCB, building bridges all along the way.

The national catechetical landscape is different because of Lee Nagel. It is more vibrant, more colorful, more hopeful…indeed, more Catholic in the richest sense of Catholicism. Lee may have been larger-than-life, a boisterous personality that demanded our attention. And yet, in the legacy of Lee Nagel is the invitation for each of us to be true to ourselves…and in doing so, to make the difference we are uniquely called to make for Christ.

NCCL is establishing a Memorial Fund in Lee’s name. Details will follow.

Correspondence with the NCCL Office

Associate Director Gina Garroway is continuing to respond to the many emails and phone calls from the past few weeks as well as moving forward in her many other responsibilities. Please send NCCL emails to ggarroway@nccl.org. Lee’s email address will be discontinued in the near future.
Echo the Promise – Challenge $4425! – Within the Next 24 Days!

Those present at the NCCL Awards Luncheon contributed $4425 to the Echo the Promise campaign for the professional development of NCCL members. Half of the donations go into a restricted endowment account to be distributed after it reaches $100,000. The other half is available for use by the Constituency Forums.

With additional contributions this week, we’re on our way to meeting the challenge of raising another $4425 by July 10, 2014. The names listed below in boldface are the new contributors from this week. Thanks to all of you! To donate online, go to www.nccl.org and click on the Echo the Promise logo. Join those who have already contributed.

- Diane Ahlemeyer
- Jane Alfano
- Jose Amaya
- Cheryl Antos
- Constance Armstrong

Mary Beaudoin
- Jan Benton
- Debbie Betz
- Nancy Bird
- Archbishop Leonard Blair
- Sara Blauvelt
- Judith Brusseau
- Mark Buckley

Linda Buckley
- Teri Burns
- Sara & Randy Carey
- Patsy Carlson
- Beth Cartner
- Mary Fran Cassidy
- Fr. Ronald E. Cochran

Cathy Cornue
- Christen Cota
- Maria Covarrubias
- Lori Crawford

Joyce Crider
- Lorraine Deluca
- Pattie Dougherty
- Harry Dudley
- Jane Ehrlich
- Christina Emilian

Freda Epperson
- Greg Erlandson
- Jim Fage
- Nancy Ferrari

- Brian Garcia-Luense
- James Gill
- Sr. Dorothy Giloley, SSJ

Elizabeth Girton
- Donna Glaser
- Sr. Jeanne Goessling, SSND
- Mary Green
- Maureen Grisanti Larison

Toni Grojean
- Essie Hans
- Mary Theresa Heneghan
- Marinell High
- Michelle Hochrein

Carol Ann Hunt
- Brigid Johnson

- Jim Kemna
- Jim Keusenkothen
- Agnes M. Kovacs
- Leslie Krauledis

Angela Laesch

- Teresa Locke
- Fr. David Loftus
- Bea Madden
- Sr. Mary Caroline Marchal, SC

Sr. Carol Markus

- Sr. Theresa Markus
- Sr. Hilda Marotta, OSF

- Joanie McKeown
- Claire McManus
- Beth McNamara

Carol & Monroe Nichols
- JoAnn Paradise

Rhonda Parenton
- Sr. Betty Paul, SP

Paulist Evangelization Ministries
- (Frank DeSiano, CSP,
- Ken Boyack, CSP, and
- Ryan Multer)

- Gary Pokorny
- Bryan Reising
- Peter Ries
- Barbara Romanello-Wichtman
- Mary Ann Ronan
- Jo Rotunno
- Thomas Ryan
- Rosa Maria Salazar
- Sr. Kieran Sawyer
- Wendy Scherbart
- Jeanne Schrempf
- Patti Schwartz
- Deborah Seopacasa
- Sr. Margaret Anne Spangelo

- Julianne Stanz
- Carol Stone
- Linda Stryker
- Michelle Tomshack
- Valerie Vogel
- Mary Jo Waggoner
- Michael Wagner
- Cathy Walz
- Sharon Ann Weidelman
- Mike Westenberg
- Elizabeth Wickline
- Frank Zolwinski

2015 Annual Conference in Buffalo NY

“Save Me A Place”

Special Price until July 14, 2014: $269 for NCCL Members Only

May 18-21, 2015

Encounter the Joy of the Gospel!

¡Descubre la Alegria del Evangelio!
Catechetical Sunday materials available from NCCL

This year's theme "Teaching About God's Gift of Forgiveness" / "Enseñando sobre el regalo del perdón de Dios" focuses on the beautiful message of God’s love and compassion.

Our 2014 NCCL catechetical pin expresses several paths of God’s Forgiveness, the most powerful being the cross through which we receive eternal life and its reminder of the two sinners crucified with Jesus, one of whom recognized his need for forgiveness. This humility is reflected in the word "Ephphatha", meaning, “be opened,” which is embossed on the cross. "Ephphatha" is heard in the final rite of the Elect before their initiation as their eyes and ears are blessed to hear and profess the Word of God. The white area surrounding the cross suggests not only a victory wreath of forgiveness, but bandages that aid in healing that unbinds us and sets us free. “‘Ephphatha – Be opened,’ sums up Christ’s entire mission.” Pope Benedict XVI, September 9, 2012.

The pin is 1" in diameter.

NCCL’s 2014 journal for reflection is a great mystagogical gift for all parishioners, especially those who share in RCIA and adult formation, catechists, parents preparing their children for sacraments, and all those who desire to think more deeply about their faith. This resource offers meditations for Sundays, Holy Days, and liturgical seasons, as well as questions to consider, lines to write contemplations, and suggested ideas to act on your faith. A simple, yet insightful book to foster weekly discipleship for all ages. This year's reflection journal is a Special Memorial Issue remembering Lee Nagel.

Posters, certificates, Catechist Prayer Cards and Family Commitment Cards are also available from NCCL. Help your catechists and parents to reflect on their roles, by virtue of their Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Catechetical Sunday pins, reflection books, and other materials may be viewed and ordered here: Catechetical Sunday 2014

Wednesday’s Catechesis: Fear of the Lord

Pope Francis ended his catechetical addresses on the gifts of the Holy Spirit by talking about the fear of the Lord. He noted that fear of the Lord isn't a “dark feeling, but rather a joyful awareness that only God provides true peace.”

This fear “instills within Christians a child-like mentality of trust in their Father for protection from evil.” It helps Christians to be aware of sin and corruption, and leads them away from committing those sins. Fear of the Lord
**Pope Francis’ Friday Homily: Mission versus Tasks**

In his Friday homily, Pope Francis focused on our callings. “When the Lord wants to give us a mission, when He wants to give us a task, He prepares us. He prepares us to do it well, just like he prepared Elijah. And the most important part of this is not that he has encountered the Lord: no, no, that’s a given. What is important is the whole journey by which we arrive to the mission entrusted to us by the Lord. And this is the difference between the apostolic mission given to us by God and a regular task.” “When the Lord gives a mission, He always has us enter into a process, a process of purification, a process of discernment, a process of obedience, a process of prayer.” Is your life right now focused on tasks or a Mission from God? [God Prepares Us for Mission](#)

Though this song by Dan Schutte has been around for a while, it came to mind as I read the Pope’s words. [Here I Am, Lord](#)

---

**Discipleship For Confirmation and Beyond**

[Discipleship for Confirmation and Beyond](#) is a new electronic program that’s also a process designed to supplement your parish's Confirmation preparation. Led by nationally-renown religious educator, Dr. Mike Carotta, in partnership with NCCL, it includes four Core sessions for candidates, one Elective of their choice, and four Parent sessions. Dr. Carotta presented information on this program/process at NCCL’s Annual Conference in May 2014.

During July and in early August, Dr. Carotta is offering to NCCL member dioceses a free 90 minute in-service for parish confirmation teams and leaders. These “July Nights” offer a great opportunity for parishes to start planning their upcoming Confirmation programs. The only costs to the diocese are Mike’s travel and lodging (rectories will do!). There is no stipend or fee for the in-service, itself. Several dioceses have already scheduled in-services, so don’t delay!

---

**God: Father, Son and Spirit**

In his homily today, Fr. Paul Huesing, CSP, noted that the most important idea that comes from knowing about the Trinity is the message that God is Love, an ever-present, all-encompassing, in-dwelling love. If you reflect on the biggest experiences of love that you’ve had in your life and “multiply it a zillion times”, you’ll just scratch the surface in understanding the magnitude of the Love that is God. All of creation came into existence not by accident but through that profound Love that exists within God and is God.

If your earthly father is still with you, show him your love on Father’s Day and every day!

---

Image: [http://www.happyfathersdaymessagespoems.com](http://www.happyfathersdaymessagespoems.com)
Please “LIKE” us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/NCCLOnline

“FOLLOW” us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/NCCLOnline – What’s going on in your catechetical environment?

**Knowing Jesus and His Message – Conociendo a Jesus y su Mensaje**

This excellent resource is based on the protocol used to evaluate elementary religion series. The book used fifteen standards for Pre-K and K through Grades 7 & 8. Included with the binder is a CD with all the materials available for duplication. This is an ideal help for any elementary catechist regardless of the series you might be using. Check out the following and use the Order Form.

- **PREFACE - Knowing Jesus and His Message** (http://tiny.cc/nysql)
- **EXPLANATION - Knowing Jesus and His Message** (http://tiny.cc/xuvw8)
- **Standards - Explained** (http://tiny.cc/65wmc)
- **Normas y Fundamentos** (http://tiny.cc/zfrg2)
- **ORDER FORM - Knowing Jesus and His Message** (http://tiny.cc/9j0mb)

**Looking For A Good Book?**

If you are an on-line shopper and you frequent Amazon.com, please enter through the NCCL Amazon Bookstore as the organization benefits from every purchase you make. It’s an ideal way to support our ministry. Just go to www.NCCL.org and click on the Store tab or click on http://astore.amazon.com/natioconfecfor-20 and it will take you directly to our bookstore. It doesn’t matter what you buy; as long as you enter through the NCCL Amazon Bookstore, we get a percentage of your purchases.

Feedback/Comments on this issue of CL Weekly should be addressed to this week’s writer, Joanie McKeown: jmckNCCL@email.com