

About the speakers:

Martin Pion— Professor of Theology, Elms College; former Director of the Diocesan Office of Religious Education.

Fr. Mark Stelzer, STD— Doctoral degree in Theology; faculty member at Elms College, Ordained 1983

Charles Conaghan—Staff member of ORE; previously 24 years as parish catechetical leader; M.A. in Religious Education

Joan Smola—Masters degree in Pastoral Ministry, former diocesan consultant for RCIA and Adult Ministry.

Kellie Wagner— past staff member of ORE and DRE for parishes in CT. She has a M.A. in applied theology and a B.A. in communications.

Jim Stankiewicz— Director of St. Agnes Praise Band; former music director; former music teacher; present Asst. Supt. of Central Berkshire schools

Carol Lisella— Religious Education Director grades K-11, St. Patrick's Parish, South Hadley, Currently working on a MATT from Elms College

Jeanne Hunt- Degrees in Fine Arts, Art History, and Theology, Religious Education Editorial Advisor for Catechesis and Evangelization – St Anthony Messenger Press-Author of seven books

Carolyn Groves— PhD in religious studies, taught both in college and Roman Catholic seminaries, formerly Dir. of Faith Formation in Illinois. New staff member of ORE.

Lino Sanmiguel— Pastoral assistant to the Hispanic community at St. Anthony in Chicopee. Director of "VozCATHOLIC" Spanish Catholic Radio Ministry. Born in Cali-Colombia and moved to the USA in 1985.

Jayne Dougherty- Staff member of ORE; M.A. in Religious Studies, 13 years in Catholic school education, 25 years in parish and diocesan religious education.

Virgen Viera— chair person of the Spiritual Life committee with a vast experience as a teacher in Religious Education at Our Lady of Guadalupe in Holyoke. BSE and a Social Worker for the Dept. of Children and Families in Holyoke

Laurie Janecko— Theology graduate, Boston College, religion teacher/campus minister at East Catholic HS, CT. Coordinator of activities and programs, Trinity Pentecostal Church of God, Hartford.

Kathryn Buckley-Brawner— M.A. in Applied Theology, Diocesan Coordinator of the Office of Peace and Justice, serves as a faith formation leader and pastoral minister in her home parish. Adjunct instructor at Elms College.

Fr. Jeff Minkler— Parochial Vicar St. Cecilia, Wilbraham, Ordained 2005

Fr. Chris Malatesta- Pastor, St. Agnas, Dalton, ordained 1993, Director Camp Holy Cross, Goshen.

Linda Perlmutter, Ed.D— Doctorate in Psychology from AIC, catechist at Holy Name, Springfield, child psychologist working in the Ludlow school system.



Schedule of Events

- 8:30a.m. Registration
- 9:00a.m. Morning Prayer and Greetings from the Bishop
- 9:30 a.m. 1st Workshop
- 10:30 a.m. Break, Exhibits, Refreshments
- 11:00 a.m. Keynote: Kathleen Chesto
- 12:00 noon Last chance to visit exhibits
- 12:30 p.m. 2nd Workshop
- 1:30 p.m. Lunch available in Elms Cafeteria from 1:30 –2:30pm for an extra fee.

We would like to have a sense of the number staying for lunch so please enter this information on your registration form.

Keynote Speaker Kathleen Chesto



Kathleen Chesto, D.Min., has enthralled audiences throughout the country with faith stories. She is a noted speaker, expert author, engaging workshop and video presenter. She is a former diocesan and parish director of religious education and family ministry, as well as a wife, mother, and grandmother. Some of Kathleen's videos on the sacraments are available in our Diocesan Resource Center.

Directions:

OUR LADY OF THE ELMS COLLEGE
291 Springfield Street, Chicopee, MA

Route 91 South:

Take Route 91 South and exit at Route 391 North. Take Exit 2, Center Street. At the end of exit ramp, turn right, go through the traffic light, and continue straight until you come to another set of lights. At these lights turn right onto Springfield Street. Follow Springfield Street up the hill and go through another light. Elms College is on the left.

Mass Pike—East or West:

Exit turnpike at Exit 5. After leaving toll booth take a left, at the end of the toll road take a right. At the lights go left onto Granby Road. Continue straight on Granby Road for 2.2 miles. Take a left at the lights. Drive a short distance and you must turn right (one way street). Go a short distance and take the first left onto School Street. At the lights turn left onto Exchange Street. At the next lights you will see a restaurant. Go straight past the restaurant and up along the side of it up the hill. This is Springfield Street. Go through a set of lights. Elms College is on the left.



BLESSING OF CATECHISTS
9:00 A.M.
BISHOP MCDONNELL

"...An opportunity for enrichment and updating that will assist you in your efforts to be a good steward of the gift God has given you, that of being called a catechist."

-Bishop McDonnell

2008



Religious Education Congress

November 8, 2008

**Our Lady of the Elms
College**
Chicopee, MA

Keynote Speaker:

**Kathleen O.
Chesto, D.Min.**

REGISTRATION FORM

Religious Education Congress, Nov. 8, 2008

Please return by October 22, 2008

SPACE IS LIMITED

PLEASE REGISTER EARLY

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip Code: _____ Phone #: _____

E-mail: _____

Parish: _____

Parish City: _____

Workshop choices (choose one for each session):

Session One:

Session Two:

Please check here if you are planning to purchase lunch at Elms College

REGISTRATION FEE DOES NOT INCLUDE LUNCH

- \$12.00 per person pre-paid
- \$10.00 per person in groups of 5 or more from same parish who prepay
- \$15.00 at the door or billed

Make checks payable to and send to:
Office of Religious Education
Diocese of Springfield
P. O. Box 1730
Springfield, MA 01102-1730

Email: lois.koz@diospringfield.org
FAX: 413-452-0817

WORKSHOPS AVAILABLE

Offered in Session 1

RCIA and the ChildKellie Wagner

This session will introduce the basic components of an RCIA program for children who wish to grow into a closer relationship with God and the Catholic Community through the sacraments. Tips for incorporating these special children into your religious education program will also be shared.

Who is my neighbor?Laura Janecho

Are you aware that discrimination existed in Jesus' time? This session will provide participants an opportunity to look at the Parable of the Good Samaritan and use it as a framework for examining discrimination in our day. It will also raise consciousness and offer practical implications for today's religious education and youth ministry programs grounded in Scripture. Participants will receive realistic suggestions to provide teachable examples and applications for all grade levels.

Teddy Bears and PopcornJeanne Hunt

This workshop offers the primary grade level catechist wonderful easy ideas that bring lesson plans alive. These simple projects make catechesis come to life for the young and very young.

Where Do We Go From Here? RCIA Twenty Years LaterJoan Smola

How is your parish doing with the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults as promulgated in 1988? Whether you are just starting the RCIA or have been implementing it for years, this workshop will help you to move forward toward fully integrating it into the life and mission of the parish. By grappling with some key elements of the Rite, we will explore some ways to make the RCIA a transformative experience for both the candidates and the parish.

Service is not just Kid-StuffKathryn Buckley-Brawner

"Service" for justice is one of those components of Religious Education/Youth programs that can fall into the category of seeming like it's "just for kids." Where is the adult formation? Where is the informed adult participation and modeling? Good news: There are many great programs/ways to engage and form adults in social justice ministry. We'll share them—come find out about them.

La Importancia de la Educación Religiosa en la FamiliaVirgen Viera

Los padres son los primeros educadores de sus hijos. Por lo tanto, ellos deben formar parte en la educación religiosa de sus hijos. Así la familia puede crecer junta *en la vida espiritual tanto como en la vida intelectual.*

Freedom: The Way of the Holy SpiritFr. Jeff Minkler

Confirmation Prep: An overview of the gifts of the Holy Spirit placed within the context of human freedom.

Religious Education as One Antidote for PrejudiceMarty Pion

Learn to be aware of racial, ethnic, religious stereotyping in your curriculum and/or in your volunteers.

The Mustard Seed and the Hazelnut: Spiritual Dimensions of Catechetical MinistryCarolyn Groves

In one hand we hold a mustard seed almost too tiny to see—a speck of dust which Jesus compared to the Kingdom of God. In the other hand we hold a hazelnut, the sign God gave to Julian of Norwich that "all shall be well." In catechetical ministry we need both to plant and to let God grow it. Come and reflect on the active and contemplative dimensions of our ministry.

"How to Manage Different Learning Styles"Linda Perlmutter, Ed.D

An introduction to the variety of learning styles and disabilities (developmental and emotional disabilities—as well as the gifted). Each presents unique challenges and brings strengths to the learning environment. Learn about these strengths and challenges; teaching strategies for the various styles.

Offered in Session 2

Proclamation of the Reign of God as Mission of the ChurchMark Stelzer, STD

At the center of Jesus' ministry rests the proclamation of the Kingdom, or Reign of God. This workshop explores ways in which Jesus' understanding of the Kingdom informs the mission of the Church and the work of catechesis today.

Catequesis Basica De San PabloLino Sanmiguel

La llamada, la formación & la enseñanza del Apostol Pablo.

Evangelizing, Engaging & Energizing Youth through PrayerKellie Wagner

Learn some basic techniques for not only engaging young people in prayer but for helping them become evangelizers in their own faith communities. Examples of guided youth prayer sessions included.

Insights on St. Paul ...Charlie Conaghan

An overview of the epistles of St. Paul and his basic theology. We will look at this apostle as we celebrate the year of St. Paul.

What is DIAC? What About Parishes That Are Not Part of It?Jayne Dougherty

We will discuss Adolescent Catechesis looking at current efforts on diocesan and national levels and how parishes might benefit from the insights of those movements.

Youth Friendly Liturgy and Parish EnvironmentFr. Chris Malatesta & Jim Stankiewicz

If you build it they will come! Create a liturgy experience that meets the needs of teens and young adults by providing ministry opportunities for their participation. Gain the interest of high school youth and young adults: Praise band—Dynamic Music; Student participation; Family environment; Life Teen™ parish. Workshop will explain motivation, success and challenges, and insights on how to meet the needs of the young church.

Creative ideas: Make Your Sacramental Preparation Family Friendly and CreativeCarol Lisella

An opportunity to consider new ideas for building family involvement into your Eucharist and Reconciliation Programs. Ideas for retreats, parent meetings and special events will be shared.

Choosing the Right Adult Education Programs for Your ParishCarolyn Groves

Can you believe that asking the question "where were you when John F. Kennedy died?" to adults in your parish can help you plan programs and ministries that are effective and successful? This workshop will present different options for adult education programs that respond to the needs and interests of your parishioners. Come with some knowledge of the makeup of your community and let's design an adult education program for them.

Celebrating Saints and Seasons...Jeanne Hunt

This workshop travels through the liturgical year with hundreds of ideas, projects and prayers to bring life to the rites, rituals and saints of the Catholic Faith.