

**WDREF**

Wisconsin Directors of Religious Education Federation

Ann Sirianni—DRE  
St. John the Baptist Parish  
209 South St.  
Waunakee, WI 53597



**The Ramada,  
Stevens Point  
November 13/14, 2008**



## What is WDREF?

WDREF stands for the Wisconsin Directors of Religious Education Federation. This state organization for parish catechetical leaders was formed in 1980 and was the first of its kind in the United States.

WDREF's purpose is both ministerial and professional.

WDREF's objectives are to...

- Provide opportunities for mutual support and growth
- Promote the profession of Director and Coordinator of Religious Education on regional, diocesan, state and national levels.

Contact your local diocesan parish catechetical leader's organization for more information on how you can benefit from membership.

Green Bay Diocese - ProCLAYM  
La Crosse Diocese - DARE  
Madison Diocese - MDREO  
Milwaukee Archdiocese - Mareda  
Superior Diocese - SUMMIT



Talk with other parish catechetical leaders at the convention and get their thoughts on the importance of being members of this long-standing organization.

### Parish Catechetical Leaders: Co-Worker's in the Vineyard Identity Statement

**Called by God** as Parish Catechetical Leaders in the State of Wisconsin,

**We**

- **Believe**
- **Celebrate** and
- **Affirm** our commitment to

**Proclaim and Echo** the Word of God in its entirety wherever we minister;

**Seek** the on-going formation, education, and professional training that catechetical leadership requires;

**Model** Jesus Christ in a spirit of prayerfulness and generosity in partnership with others;

**Collaborate** with all pastoral ministers in the development of the Reign of God through vibrant Catholic Christian Communities;

**Facilitate** opportunities for all members of the Catholic community to participate in life-long formation leading to transformation and lasting conversion;

**Advocate** for professionalism in the catechetical ministry;

**Open** ourselves to the unique challenges of our time and respond to those challenges by teaching and living the Catholic social justice principles.

Proclaimed by WDREF on this day, November 9, 2006

## The Ramada, Stevens Point

1501 N. Point Drive, Stevens Point 54481

For reservations call:

Toll Free - 800.998.2311

Local - 715.341.1340

E-Mail - [www.ramadastevenspoint.com](http://www.ramadastevenspoint.com)

Room rates for convention: \$ 62 single, \$ 72 double, \$ 82 triple

**Must provide your own parish's Tax Exempt Certificate!**

**QUESTIONS??? - contact Ann Sirianni at  
[dffanns@yahoo.com](mailto:dffanns@yahoo.com) or 608.849.5121**

## Driving Instructions from various points...

**From Green Bay** - 100 miles:

Take WI-29 west for approximately 69 miles. Turn left onto WI-49, right onto CR-II, left on CR-Y, left onto CR-J/CR-Y, right onto CR-Y and then right onto WI-66 south. Proceed on WI-66 for approximately 3 miles. Merge onto I-39 north. Continue on I-39 north and take the US-51-BR exit (161) toward Stevens Point. Continue on US-51-BR south. Turn right onto North Point Drive.

**From Milwaukee and Madison** - 180/112 miles respectively:

Take I-94 west toward Madison and then take I-39 north toward Portage and take the I-39 north exit 108A-B. Merge onto I-39 north via exit 108B. Continue on I-39 north for 77 miles. Take the US-51-BR exit (161) toward Stevens Point. Continue on US-51-BR south. Turn right onto North Point Drive.

**From West (Eau Claire area)** - 190 approximate miles:

Take I-94 east merge onto WI-29 east via exit 52 toward Green Bay. Continue on WI-29 east for 105 miles. Merge onto US-51 south toward Green Bay/Stevens Point. Continue on US-51 for 30 miles. Take the US-51-BR exit (161) toward Stevens Point. Continue on US-51-BR south. Turn right onto North Point Drive.

**From the North (Mercer area)** - 132 approximate miles:

Take US-51 South for about 130 miles. Take the US-51-BR exit, EXIT 161, toward Stevens Point. Merge onto US-51-BR South. Turn right onto North Point Drive.



**CONVENTION 2008  
Registration Form**  
(feel free to make copies)

	Before 10/01/08	After 10/01/08
<b>First Time Attendees</b>	\$ 99.00	\$ 99.00
<b>WDREF Member Full Convention</b>	\$160.00	\$185.00
<b>Not a Member Full Convention</b>	\$200.00	\$225.00
<b>Thursday only</b>	\$125.00	\$150.00
<b>Friday only</b>	\$100.00	\$125.00
<b>Total Enclosed</b>		

Please Print

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parish: \_\_\_\_\_

Ministry Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Payment must be enclosed...make checks payable to WDREF.  
Return to...



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**The Presentations and Speakers...**

***\*New Perspectives on E-Catechesis: Crossing the 21st Century Communications Threshold***

As early missionaries courageously forged into new unknown landscapes to proclaim the Good News, today catechists are challenged to forge into a rapidly expanding e-culture that is transforming the educational, social, political and corporate life of our world. E-culture is the new missionary territory of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. With or without us this expanding e-culture weaves its way into the fabric of our lives. As catechists, we need to be informed if our catechetical ministry is to make a difference in the lives of those we seek to minister to today.

***\*Opportunities of E-Communication for Effective Catechesis***

The internet and new media resources are yeasting copious opportunities and challenges for engaging in catechesis today. How can parish catechetical leaders hone their internet and media consciousness and skills to incorporate the wealth of these resources into our catechetical environments? This session will identify quality resources and methodologies for paving the way for a new e-perspective on catechesis for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

**Sr. Angela Ann Zukowski, MSHS**

*Sr. Angela Ann Zukowski is the director of the University of Dayton's Institute for Pastoral Initiatives and the Virtual Learning Community of Faith Formation. Her commitment to media literacy is rooted in a continuum of significant catechetical involvements spanning nearly three decades, among them, pioneering work in the use of cable TV for evangelization, sitting as president of the International Catholic Association for Radio and Television, and contributing to the conceptualization and writing of the pastoral document on social communications, Aetatis Novae. Her most recent book is The Gospel in Cyberspace with Pierre Babin (Loyola Press).*

## DAILY SCHEDULE

### **\*Cultivating Spiritual Awareness With Adolescents**

This session will explore concrete principles and processes for helping adolescents develop spiritual sensitivities and moral imagination. Examples from the young adolescent paperback series, "Lincoln Park," will be used to illustrate these specific dynamics, including the unique function of adults as spiritual teachers.

#### **Michael Carotta**

*For over 25 years, Dr. Michael Carotta has lived and worked with adolescents as a Catholic school teacher, parish catechist, diocesan consultant, researcher and much celebrated author. Mike spent four years with at-risk youth as the Director of Religious Education at Boys Town in Omaha, Nebraska and was the first layperson to serve as Executive Director of NCEA's Department of Religious Education headquartered in Washington, D. C.*

### **\*Catechesis For Our Time:**

#### ***Proclaiming the Legacy We Have Inherited, Entering Into The Future That Awaits Us***

We will reflect on the foundations of the Faith and the rich history of the catechetical ministry as we consider the opportunities and challenges we face as catechetical leaders in the contemporary world.

#### **Jacquelyne Witter**

*Jackie is the founding Director of iLLUMINARE: Called for Service, Formed in Christ, The Ministry to Ministers Project of St. Paul's Monastery in St. Paul. iLLUMINARE provides ongoing pastoral formation and spiritual renewal for experienced Church ministers. Prior to her work with iLLUMINARE, Jackie served as Director of Ministerial Formation at St. John's School of Theology-Seminary in Collegeville, and as Director of Catechesis and Faith Formation for the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis as well as Director of Catechetics for the Diocese of La Crosse. Her previous work experience also includes parish and Catholic school ministry.*

*Jackie is a faculty member in the graduate Pastoral Ministry Program at Mount Marty College in Yankton, SD and a faculty member for the Murray Institute at the University of St. Thomas.*

### Wednesday

**4:00-7:00 PM** Registration/Check-in  
**7:00-9:00 PM** Evening Program (sponsored by DARE)  
**Mike Carotta - *Unchaining Confirmation***  
**Fr. Jan Michael Joncas - *A Paschal Journey: Illness, Conversion and Hope***  
**Welcome Reception**  
**Hors d'oeuvres**  
**Cash Bar**

**9:00-???? PM**



### Thursday

**7:30-9:00 AM** Breakfast  
**8:00-9:00 AM** Registration/Exhibits  
**9:00-9:30 AM** Welcome/Opening Prayer  
**9:30-11:00 AM** Session 1 – *Sr. Angela Ann*  
**11:00-11:30 AM** Break/Exhibits  
**11:30-12:30 PM** Liturgy  
**12:30-1:45 PM** Lunch/Exhibits  
**1:45-3:15 PM** Session 2 – *Sr. Angela Ann*  
**3:15-3:30 PM** Break  
**3:30-5:00 PM** Session 3 – *Mike Carotta*  
**5:00-6:30 PM** Break/Exhibits  
**6:30 PM** Banquet  
**Awards**  
**WDREF Update**

### Friday

**7:30-9:00 AM** Breakfast  
**8:00-9:30 AM** Registration/Exhibits  
**9:30-11:00 AM** Session 4 – *Jackie Witter*  
**11:00-Noon** Making the Message Our Own!  
**Noon-1:00 PM** Lunch/Exhibits  
**1:00-2:30 PM** Session 5 – *Jackie Witter*  
**Sending Forth Prayer**