

BREAKOUTS—SECOND SESSION (CHOOSE ONE)

(5) The Reality of Seniors in our Midst: Dealing with Isolation and Loneliness

Jennifer McLaughlin, St. Noel, Lake County Council on Aging

As the average age of Lake & Geauga County continues to rise and older residents strive to remain independent in their homes, the risk of isolation grows stronger. Not only do our seniors struggle to get to Mass, they often struggle to enjoy healthy human contact on a regular basis. Learn about the changing demographics in our counties and how we might respond as neighbors and as people of faith.

(6) One Foot In, One Foot Out, Engaging the Reluctant Catholic

Fr. Dave Woost, Pastor, Divine Word, Deacon Bob Grgic, Pastoral Associate, St. Gabriel

Parish life is complex. In each of our parishes we see sporadic attendance and even indifference. Parents and family are involved in sacramental programs, but disengaged once the sacrament is received. Some are involved in church activities, but are absent from worship. Many are looking for a reason to join us, but need to be “nudged” through invitation and listening. How can we be the presence of the Church in accompanying them back home? Let’s examine the possibilities!



(7) Helping to Build the Bridge to the Gay and Lesbian Community and Their Families

Fr. Tom Johns, Pastor, St. John Vianney, Joyce Buchanan, St. Noel

Father Johns has facilitated a support group for parents and friends of gay and lesbian Catholics for over 10 years. Fr. Johns and Joyce will share some of the things they have learned from the individuals in the support group and from the teachings of the Church on this topic as we seek to minister to all God’s people. They will draw some ideas also from the recent book of Father James Martin, Building a Bridge: How the Catholic Church and the LGBT Community Can Enter into a Relationship of Respect, Compassion and Sensitivity.

(8) The Consistent Ethic of Life: Reverencing Life from Conception to Natural Death

Jim Hogan, Director of Discipleship & Evangelization, St. Helen

All human life is sacred. This truth resonates through all of Catholic Social Teaching and forms a thread that links all life issues together. Through conversation and example, participants will gain a deeper understanding of the Consistent Ethic of Life and its implications for parish ministry. Special attention will be given to the issues of abortion and capital punishment.



“I think the conference strengthened the value & purpose of the district model and the importance of collaboration. There was such a great spirit & people felt their ministry was validated and appreciated.”

2015 Conference Attendee

“The energy that renews us when we gather as disciples is amazing. We need to continue these endeavors – they help all of us restore our focus.”

2016 Conference Attendee

“It was very inspiring to see so many come together to learn and grow. It gave me hope and energy, and also made me very grateful to be a part of such an active District.. I was confirmed in my role as “disciple”.

2017 Conference Attendee

Registration space is limited so we strongly encourage you to complete online registration as soon as possible.



Lake Geauga District Ministry Discipleship Conference



**September 29, 2018
8:30AM – 1:30PM**

**St. Gabriel Church
9925 Johnnycake Ridge Rd.
Concord Township, Ohio**

**44060
(440) 352-8282**



**Online registration preferred
regardless of payment type.**

**Visit St-Gabriel.org to complete
(\$10 per person)**

Credit Cards accepted online or mail check
to:

St. Gabriel/Ministry Conference
9925 Johnnycake Ridge Rd Mentor 44060

REGISTRATION

Name:

Address:

Phone:

E-Mail:

Parish:

1st Breakout Choice: *indicate talk #

2nd Breakout Choice: *indicate talk #

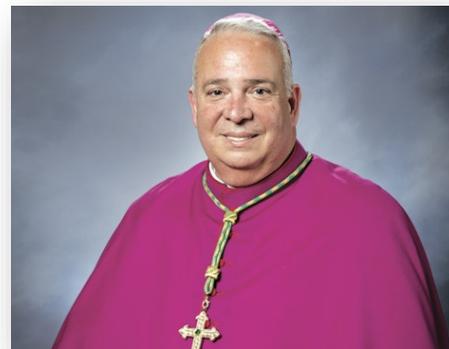
**Registration Deadline
September 22**

Questions? Contact Maureen Dowd at
mdowd@st-gabriel.org or 440-352-8282



CONFERENCE AGENDA

8:30 am Registration/Coffee &
Pastries
9:00 am Welcome/Opening Prayer
9:15 am Keynote Presentation
10:15 am Break
10:30 am First Breakout
11:30 am Lunch
12:00 pm Second Breakout
1:00 pm Next Steps/Closing Remarks
1:20 pm Closing Prayer Experience



KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Most Rev. Nelson J. Perez
Bishop of Cleveland

***“Missionary Disciples on
Mission to the Peripheries”***

Following in the footsteps of Jesus, we are called to embrace the Gospel as true disciples. Bishop Perez will invite and challenge us to see the “people on the peripheries” with the eyes of Jesus. We are called to share the Gospel with all of our brothers and sisters.

BREAKOUTS—FIRST SESSION (CHOOSE ONE)

**(1) Welcoming the Stranger:
Immigration through the Eyes of
the Catholic Church**

*Sister Rita Mary Harwood, SND, Kelly
Davis, Camille Gill, Diocesan “Welcoming
the Stranger” Committee*

As Catholics, our views on immigration are rooted in Scripture and grounded in the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. Join us as we examine the basis of our beliefs and engage with a local migrant who will share his personal story. This panel will discuss our Catholic views on immigration as well as current legal issues surrounding the topic. Learn more about our local migrants and how you might help to welcome them.

**(2) Ministering to Those Suffering
From Addictions**

*Patrick, Patty and Annamarie Murphy,
St. John Vianney*

The reality of addiction has impacted all parishes and people of our district. Through personal experience of loss, and professional expertise in both counseling and recovery, the Murphy family will share their journey to serenity and lead participants in understanding the important role parishes can play in ministering to addicts and their families.



**(3) Millennials—Young Adults
on the Margins of the Church**

*Diana Hancharenko, St. Angela Merici,
Youngstown*

This is the moment for conversation and action regarding young adults (those 18-39) and the Church, thanks to the Synod process and growing focus on the disappearance of young adults from the pews and our parish communities. How has the landscape changed and what do we need to keep in mind to welcome in and welcome back this often marginalized age demographic? We will explore where young adults are currently, what their thoughts are on spirituality and the Church, what might be keeping them away, and what can be done to bring them back.

**(4) When I Was in Prison:
Ministering to the Millions
Behind Bars**

Alice Hinkel, St. Noel

The United States incarcerates more people than any other country in the world. Each of these men and women has a story, and each is loved by God. Learn about the wonderful ministries happening through our parishes, hear stories of redemption, and explore ways our parishes could be doing even more.