



New England Convocation  
for  
*Catechetical  
Leadership*

**Evangelizing  
Catechesis:  
Today, Tomorrow  
& Beyond**



**August (4), 5, 6, & 7, 2011**

**Springfield Marriott Hotel  
Springfield, MA**

[www.necddre.org/program](http://www.necddre.org/program)

**npcd**

Excellence in Catechesis



## Pre-Convocation

### Thursday, August 4, 2011

11:00 a.m.	Registration
1:00 p.m.	Welcome and Opening Prayer
1:15 p.m.	Session One
2:30 p.m.	Break
3:00 p.m.	Session One Continued
4:15 p.m.	Break
5:30 p.m.	Dinner
7:00 p.m.	Session Two
8:30 p.m.	Social



### Friday, August 5, 2011

8:00 a.m.	Continental Breakfast
9:10 a.m.	Session Three
10:15 a.m.	Break
10:30 a.m.	Session Three Continued
11:45 a.m.	Closing Prayer
Noon	Buffet Lunch

## Pre-Convocation Sessions & Presenters

### The RCIA: An Introduction (Rev. Stanley J. Szczapa)

This track is designed for catechists who are new to the RCIA. Discernment, sources of catechesis, the importance of the ritual, calendar and mystagogy are among the topics that will be addressed in interactive sessions.



**Rev. Stanley J. Szczapa**, pastor of Sacred Heart Church in Vernon, CT. Father Stan, ordained in 1971, has been a pastor for the past twenty-five years. He holds a master's degree in theology from the University of Detroit and has spent five summers studying liturgy at Santa Clara University in California. He has a wide range of experience and understanding of the Rite of Christian Initiation of adults, both as pastor and as a team member of the North American Forum on the Catechumenate.



### RCIA Adapted for Children (Diana Dudoit Raiche)

Where do you place children who have not celebrated sacraments with their peers? A growing number of children at the parish or the Catholic school come without benefit of baptism, first communion or the sacrament of confirmation. This presentation focuses on how to address the spiritual and sacramental needs of these children and their families through the *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults* adapted for children in a number of settings: parish catechetical program; catechumenate with children, and Catholic schools. Find out what are the essential elements of "RCIA adapted for children" and how such formation for sacraments is like and different from traditional sacrament preparation.



**Diana Dudoit Raiche**, Executive Director of the Department of Religious Education at NCEA, has degrees in Education, Practical Theology and is currently a Ph.D. Candidate at The Catholic University of America in Washington, DC in Religious Education/Catechetics. Her dissertation is on the catechumenate with children; she has provided workshops in the United States and Canada on sacramental catechesis with children and written extensively on this topic. In her capacity as Executive Director, she serves as a consultant to the Bishops' Committee on Evangelization and Catechesis and collaborates with other national offices on various projects. She has been a team member with the North American Forum on the Catechumenate since 1995.

## Convocation

### Friday, August 5, 2011

11:00 a.m.	Registration
11:45 a.m.	Buffet Lunch
1:00 p.m.	Welcome and Opening Prayer
1:45 p.m.	<b>Keynote (Part I)-John Allen, Jr., "The Future Church"</b>
3:00 p.m.	Break & Exhibits
3:30 p.m.	<b>Keynote (Part II)</b>
4:45 p.m.	Break & Exhibits
5:30 p.m.	Dinner
6:30 p.m.	Break & Exhibits
7:15 p.m.	<b>Workshops</b>
	- Sr. Ruth Bolarte, IHM (Eng): <i>"Integration of Cultures into Community"</i>
	- Fr. Juan Calderon -(Sp) <i>"Mistagogia Y El Proceso de Aprender La Fe"</i>
	- ValLimar Jansen and Tom Kendzia: <i>"Stories and Songs of Our Faith"</i>
8:30 p.m.	Conclusion

### Saturday, August 6, 2011

8:00 a.m.	Breakfast
9:00 a.m.	Prayer
9:30 a.m.	<b>Workshops</b>
	- Rob Brancatelli - <i>"Entrepreneurial Discipleship: Business Not as Usual"</i>
	- Sr. Ruth Bolarte, IHM (Sp): <i>"Formando Discipulos. Cultivando la Fe"</i>
	- Maureen Provencher - <i>"A "Holy" Different Kind of Kid: Younger Adolescents"</i>
10:30 a.m.	Break & Exhibits
10:45 a.m.	<b>Workshops:</b>
	- Fr. Juan Calderon (Sp) - <i>"Conocer Y Celebrar en El Siglo XXI"</i>
	- Mary Jane Silvia - <i>"Creativity in Ministry: Reaching Out to Young Adults"</i>
	- LaVerne Bertin- <i>"Is the Life I Am Living the Life That Wants to Live in Me?"</i>
11:45 a.m.	Break & Exhibits
12:15 p.m.	Lunch
1:30 p.m.	<b>Major Presentation: Carole Eipers: - Evangelizing Catechesis: "Compelled, Impelled, Propelled"</b>
2:30 p.m.	Break & Exhibits ( <i>Last Call</i> )
3:00 p.m.	<b>Panel Discussin: Carole Eipers, Ruth Bolarte, IHM, Rob Brancatelli</b>
4:15 p.m.	Break
5:00 p.m.	Mass at St. Francis Chapel
6:30 p.m.	Social
7:00 p.m.	Banquet
8:30 p.m.	<b>Concert:</b> Tom Kendzia and ValLimar Jansen

### Sunday, August 7, 2011

7:45 a.m.	Breakfast: Coffee and...
8:15 a.m.	Breakfast Meeting with NPCD
9:00 a.m.	<b>Major Presentation: ValLimar Jansen: <i>Passion, Power and Presence in Our Diversity: "Walk Together, Children. Don't You Get Weary"</i></b>
10:30 a.m.	Closing Remarks and Closing Prayer
11:00 a.m.	Brunch Buffet



## Convocation - Presentations/Workshops

Keynote:

***The Future Church - Keynote: (John L. Allen, Jr.) - One of the world's foremost religion journalists offers an unexpected and provocative look at where the Catholic Church is headed—and what the changes will mean for all of us.***

What will the Catholic Church be like in 100 years? Will there be a woman pope? Will dioceses throughout the United States and the rest of the world go bankrupt from years of scandal? In THE FUTURE CHURCH, John L. Allen puts forth the ten trends he believes will transform the Church into the twenty-second century. From the influence of Catholics in Africa, Asia, and Latin America on doctrine and practices to the impact of multinational organizations on local and ethical standards, Allen delves into the impact of globalization on the Roman Catholic Church and argues that it must rethink fundamental issues, policies, and ways of doing business. Allen shows that over the next century, the Church will have to respond to changes within the institution itself and in the world as a whole whether it is contending with biotechnical advances—including cloning and genetic enhancement—the aging Catholic population, or expanding the roles of the laity.

Friday Workshops:

**Integration of cultures into communion (Sr. Ruth Bolarte, IHM)**

This workshop will offer some ideas and suggestions as we embrace the multicultural face of God in ministry.

**"Mistagogia Y El Proceso de Aprender La Fe" (Rev. Juan Luis Calderón)**

La Iglesia realiza un gran esfuerzo catequético para educar en la fe a los nuevos miembros. Los catequistas, además de buena preparación, necesitan alimentar su vocación al ministerio con un espíritu pastoral y celebrativo. Además es necesario entender la propia vocación/misión dentro de la Historia de la Salvación. La clave es la recuperación del sentido mistagógico de la catequesis.

**"Stories and Songs of Our Faith" (Tom Kendzia & ValLimar Jansen)**

Experience the Word of God in story and song, and discover the catechetical possibilities when ritual comes alive with both of these key elements of good liturgy and catechesis.

Saturday 9:30 AM Workshops:

**"Entrepreneurial Discipleship: Business *Not* as Usual" (Robert Brancatelli)**

Based on a new course developed at Fordham University in conjunction with the Graduate School of Business, this workshop will identify an entrepreneurial spirit derived from business that nurtures evangelization and faith formation and offers a new way of being church for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

**"Formando Discípulos. Cultivando la Fe" (Sr. Ruth Bolarte, IHM)**

Como discípulos de Jesús estamos llamados a trabajar en su misión como profeta, sacerdote, y rey. Este taller enfocara cómo estamos desarrollando la misión tridimensional de Jesús en la formación catequética

**A "Holy" Different Kind of Kid: Younger Adolescents (Maureen Provencher—Sponsored by RCL Benziger)**

They think differently. They act with more energy than we can keep up with. They challenge us. They hold us accountable to our living. They ask tough questions. They demand a faith that is livable and real, and want us to show them how. And, although they won't admit to it....they not only need us, they want us to influence their lives. Together, we'll delve more deeply into the mystery of understanding and embracing younger adolescents: their nature, their needs, their holiness and our response -- one that is practical, creative, empowering and real.

Saturday 10:45 AM Workshops:

**"Conocer Y Celebrar en El Siglo XXI" (Rev. Juan Luis Calderón)**

Conocer a Jesús y celebrar la fe van de la mano. Pero cada vez resulta más difícil hacer "entender" el lenguaje litúrgico a las nuevas generaciones. Es preciso asumir un nuevo estilo de mistagogia a la hora de impulsar la fe entre los hispanos de los Estados Unidos. Analizaremos la realidad personal y comunitaria de los católicos de USA y su manera de mirar la fe desde la experiencia cotidiana y buscaremos nuevos caminos de pastoral y catequesis.

**Creativity in Ministry: Reaching Out to Young Adults (Mary Jane Silvia)**

Participants in this workshop will be given an opportunity to deepen their understanding and appreciation of ministry with and for young adults. Through examination of some resources, personal reflection, and discussion, participants will be invited to widen their vision and expand their imagination regarding young adult culture.

**"Is the Life I Am Living the Life That Wants to Live in Me?" (LaVerne Bertin)**

This is the ultimate question for mature Christians today. It is one posed by Parker Palmer, noted author and educator. This session will explore the promises and challenges of adult education and faith formation in the Church of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

Presentations - Sat./Sun

**Evangelizing Catechesis: Compelled, Impelled, Propelled (Carol Eipers - Sponsored by W.H. Sadlier)**

For Saint Paul, being impelled by the love of Christ began with conversion and led to mission. How does evangelizing catechesis today invite to conversion and equip those we catechize for mission?

**Passion, Power and Presence in Our Diversity: "Walk Together, Children. Don't You Get Weary" (ValLimar Jansen)**

God is truly present in the rich tapestry of the Body of Christ. Can we find unique and compelling ways to accomplish the basic tasks of good catechesis while embracing our great diversity? ValLimar uses scripture, prayer, storytelling, movement and song to re-ignite our passion for the journey of faith, hope and love. She re-affirms our commitment to an evangelizing catechesis, available to 'All God's Children!'

# Convocation Presenters



**John L. Allen, Jr.** is the prize-winning Senior Correspondent for the *National Catholic Reporter* and the Senior Vatican Analyst for CNN. He's the author of six best-selling books on the Vatican and Catholic affairs, and writes frequently on the Church for major national and international publications. He's also a popular speaker on Catholic affairs, both in the United States and abroad.

Allen's work is admired across ideological divides. Liberal commentator Fr. Andrew Greeley calls his writing "indispensable," while the late Fr. Richard John Neuhaus, a conservative, called Allen's reporting "possibly the best source of information on the Vatican published in the United States." His weekly internet column, "All Things Catholic," is widely read as a source of insight on the global Church. John divides his time between Rome and his home in Denver, Colorado. He grew up in Western Kansas, and holds a Master's degree in Religious Studies from the University of Kansas.

Allen has written many books, which include: *All the Pope's Men: The Inside Story of How the Vatican Really Thinks* (Doubleday, 2004); *The Rise of Benedict XVI: The Inside Story of How the Pope was Elected and What it Means for the Catholic Church* (Doubleday, 2005); *The Future Church: How Ten Trends are Revolutionizing the Catholic Church* (Doubleday, 2009) - his latest book.



**LaVerne Bertin** is Associate Director for the Diocesan Office of Religious Education in Worcester, MA. She is currently an adjunct professor at Anna Maria College and is on the faculty for the Diaconate Formation Program. In addition to her work in various areas of religious education LaVerne has served on national and local committees for Adult Education and Faith Formation, Evangelization and Social Justice.



**Sr. Ruth Bolarte, IHM** is a member of the religious order, "Sisters Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Philadelphia." A native from Perú, Sr. Ruth holds degrees in theology from Immaculata University and St. Charles Seminary in Pennsylvania. In 2006 she submitted a project in ministry, "An Integrative Spiritual Formation Program for Hispanic/Latino Lay People in the Roman Catholic Church in the United State" for the degree Doctor of Ministry of the Catholic University of America, D.C. She is currently working as the director of the Catholic Institute of Evangelization in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia and part-time teacher at Busca Program, La Salle University.



**Robert Brancatelli, Ph.D.** is a visiting professor in the Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education at Fordham University. Previously, he served as the assistant executive director of the Department of Religious Education at the National Catholic Educational Association in Arlington, Virginia. He has also taught at The Catholic University of America and Santa Clara University.



**Fr. Juan Luis Calderón** arrived in the US from Spain in 2001 as the Assistant Director of the Hispanic Pastoral Center of the Archdiocese of Newark: Centro Guadalupe. Fr. Calderón received a theological degree from Gregorian University and many years learning from the people's experience of God, were key instruments in strengthening his relationship with Jesus Christ. Today, he has set his heart and mind on seeking, developing and fostering new tools to promote the spiritual development and pastoral formation of the Hispanic community within the Archdiocese of Newark and in the United States.



**Dr. Carole Eipers** is Vice President, Executive Director of Catechetics for William H. Sadlier, Inc. She served in parish ministries for over 20 years as a teacher, Director of Religious Education, Youth Minister and Pastoral Associate. Carole was Director of the Office for Catechesis for the Archdiocese of Chicago for nine years and also served as President of the National Conference of Catechetical Leadership. Carole has been a member of the adjunct faculties of Mundelein Seminary, Loyola University Chicago Loyola New Orleans and Catholic Theological Union in Chicago. She has been published and made presentations throughout this country and internationally in the area of catechetics. Carole holds a Master of Pastoral Studies degree from Loyola University Chicago and a Doctor of Ministry degree from the Graduate Theological Foundation in Indiana. Her book, *Sending Out Roots: Helping Parents and Teachers to Share the Faith* was published by Veritas Publishers, Dublin, Ireland in 2010.



**Tom Kendzia** has been a professional liturgical musician, composer, performer, author, and clinician for over 30 years, and in 2005, he celebrated the 25th anniversary of the release of his first collection, "Light of the World." He has appeared throughout the United States, Canada, Europe and the Far East, and he is regularly featured at national conferences, diocesan and parish events. Tom has 20 collections of liturgical and instrumental music, much of it published by OCP, including *Lead us to the Water*, and *Endless Is Your Love*, winner of 2007 Unity Award for Song of the Year. His latest recordings include *Desires of The Heart*, *Come to The Feast II*, *A Celtic Christmas*, *On Eagle's Wings*, and *Get On Board* with ValLimar Jansen. He has been in parish ministry since 1977, and has been music director at Christ the King Parish in Kingston, RI since 1986. With his wife Mary Carol, he is the author of *I Like Being in Parish Ministry: Music*, published by Twenty-Third Publications.



**ValLimar Jansen** has a long history of singing sacred music, starting from the age of five. She received most of her training in music and performance from Howard University in Washington, DC. She holds professional degrees in the arts from California State University, San Bernardino, and the University of California, Santa Barbara. She has sung and toured professionally throughout the United States, Switzerland, France, Germany, Belgium and Japan. She played the role of Beneatha with the Broadway touring cast in the European premier of *Raisin*. She went on to co-author a one-woman musical about the life of Ethel Waters that received a special commendation from the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC.



**Maureen P. Provencher** has professionally served within parish, regional and diocesan settings for over two decades. She has been a presenter at various events, institutes, as well as diocesan and national conferences. Maureen has authored *Mysteries in My Hands*; *Young People, Life and the Rosary* and *Never Too Young To Lead*; *Developing Leadership in Young Adolescents*, as well as contributed to other publications (St. Mary's Press). She is currently serving as local sales representative for RCL Benziger Publishing to the eastern, coastal dioceses of New England. She has a passion for music, liturgy, and spirituality, and a desire to provide young people with the opportunities to discover and respond to the holy within and around them.



**Mary Jane Silvia** holds a BA in Religious Studies and English from St. Mary's College, South Bend, IN, and a MA in Pastoral Ministry from LaSalle University, Philadelphia, PA. She has been involved in catechetical ministry as a theology teacher in junior high and high school and served as a high school campus minister for 15 years. Mary Jane has also coordinated youth and young adult ministry for parishes. Her ministry has also included developing and implementing retreat experiences for youth and adults. From 2004 - 2008 Mary Jane served as Diocesan Director for Youth Ministry in the Diocese of Manchester and is in her third year as Director of Campus Ministry at Rivier College, Nashua, NH.