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Last weekend I had the opportunity to attend the Parish Ministry & Catechetical conference. (That’s just a fancy name for a conference with a keynote speaker, a series of workshops, and mass with the Bishop.) It was nice to have a day devoted to my own learning. As evidenced by the number of people I knew and/or recognized, I’d say I’m getting immersed in this world of ministry. And…I like it! I’m encouraged when I see others with whom I have had class or taken trainings who give me a hug and say, “It’s so good to see you again.” I am proud to see my own growth in understanding the structure and hierarchy of the “Who’s Who?” of the diocese. I enjoy having some of those same people greet me with a smile and call me by name. It was proof to me that repeated interactions with these people, an extended period of time devoted to this “world”, and a personal commitment to learning is starting to pay off.

I hope you can see that, too, and realize that you, also, can expand your “world” simply by being open to learning, having repeated interaction with the Word, and devoting time to prayer. I welcome everybody to attend any or all of our Faith Formation programs: Sunday- Faith Formation classes, 4-6 pm @ Fellowship Hall; Monday- Catechism Study 7-8:30 pm @ St. Francis (back to CTK in Nov.); and Wednesday- Video Presentation 7:30-9 pm @ Fellowship Hall.

I was very pleased to see our attendance numbers jump back up last week. We had almost 50 participants! With so many people showing up, I could use some extra help. If you would be willing to help teach a class, especially the 4th-6th grade group (I can help with the lesson planning and prep; you just need to present the material,) please contact me at 231-937-5757. Also, we could use a few more folks to help provide snacks and/or child care. This invitation is open to women AND men, teens to senior citizens. We all have gifts to share. Please be generous with yours.

As always, if I can help you, please let me know. I can help you find answers to your religious questions, or I can work with you in a variety of ways to develop and grow your relationship with Christ.

 Blessings,

 Julie Gould

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