

Let us celebrate the 125th anniversary of the establishing of the Catholic Diocese of Belleville by Pope Leo XIII on January 7, 1887.



**Know more.
Grow more.
In belief.
In celebration.
In life.
In prayer.**

Why are we Catholic? What makes us Catholic?
What are the teachings of our Catholic faith?
If we know those teachings, do we really believe them and live by them?
How do we confidently bring that lived faith into our
challenging, pluralistic culture?

We invite you to join us in prayerfully discerning the answers to these questions. In this exploration of the richness of our faith, we will strengthen our Catholic identity.

Fanning the Flame supports a year-long journey (2012) using the **United States Catholic Catechism for Adults** with readings, reflections, retreats, small group sharing and internet opportunities.

Fanning the Flame

A Diocesan Wide Anniversary Journey of Faith

www.ftfdiobelle.org



Brief Overview

When will the journey begin? January 15, 2012

When will it end? November 25, 2012, the Sunday before Advent, however that is only the end of the program.
There is no end to the need for strengthening and deepening our faith!

Who is it for? All who want to truly understand, strengthen and deepen their Catholic faith, as well as those simply curious and interested to learn more about what Catholics believe. It could be Small Christian Communities (already formed or new ones formed for this year), parish groups, neighborhood groups, faculties, youth groups, families, or individuals following along on their own!

How will this be organized? We will use the **United States Catholic Catechism for Adults**, moving ahead one chapter week after week (allowing for occasional weeks off due to liturgical celebrations and breaks). A planning calendar is in place for you to follow, and Chapter Guides from among the clergy and laity in our own diocese will provide insights and discussion ideas.

How can we participate? Participants will read the chapter for the week and then choose from a variety of options for exploring and applying the information. Supplemental material will be available for group or individual use on a webpage for each chapter. There will be a Study Sheet each week that may be downloaded from the website. Additionally, you will find *Fanning the Flame* in *The Messenger*, the *Fanning the Flame* blog and Facebook!

Is there a cost? Each participant should have their own copy of the **United States Catholic Catechism for Adults** (which normally retails for \$24.95, but can be ordered with a significant discount by using the code on the website—but check with your parish first to see if they will be placing an order, saving you postage).

How should we prepare now? Visit the website at www.ftfdiobelle.org and watch the videos about how to connect and a message from Bishop Braxton, print a calendar for the year for ready access.... And Pray! You might use the Novena included under Prayer and devotion aids.

What else should we do? Use the **Commitment and Contact** page on the website to sign up to receive the weekly **Study Sheet** directly in your email each week! There is no cost and this will help keep you moving on your journey!

One more thing you can do.... **Share the news about the opportunity of *Fanning the Flame*!**

Let the journey begin!