



## INTERACTIVE CONNECTIONS

### Catechesis in the 21st Century: Ministering in a Digital World

# Interactive Connections Conference

**Orlando, Florida**

January 12 (Eve)-January 15 (Eve), 2010

**Doubletree Resort Orlando – International Drive**

10100 International Drive

Orlando, FL 32821

[www.doubletreeorlandoidrive.com](http://www.doubletreeorlandoidrive.com)

#### **An Event Unlike Any Other Catechetical Gathering**

INTERACTIVE CONNECTIONS and the University of Dayton's Institute for Pastoral Initiatives invite you to the first-ever national gathering of catechetical leaders interested in 21st Century technology for catechetical ministry.

#### **Why attend?**

- Network with others interested in integrating technology into parish or school catechetical ministry.
- Interact with passionate practitioners who are ground-breakers in E-technology integration.
- Discover the best practices in E-technology that colleagues are using in their catechetical ministries.
- Engage with national catechetical leaders to explore pioneering work to navigate into new frontiers for catechesis in the digital age.

#### **INTERACTIVE CONNECTIONS offers a CONFERENCE that you won't want to miss!**

A featured highlight will be spending two days at FETC (Florida Education Technology Conference). FETC remains one of the largest, most successful K-12 conferences in the United States devoted to education technology. The conference program offers educators and administrators an opportunity to learn how to integrate different technologies across the curriculum – from kindergarten to college – while being exposed to the latest hardware, software, and successful strategies on student technology use. As an added benefit, FETC offers an opportunity to visit over 300+ technology vendors.

Additionally, our Interactive Connections Conference will provide a unique opportunity to visit cutting-edge educational organizations nationally recognized for their technology integration. Participants will discover ways that can promote faith-based instruction and technology integration.

**2 CEU's from the University of Dayton are included in the registration.**

*"...the proclamation of Christ in the world of new technologies requires a profound knowledge of this world if the technologies are to serve our mission adequately."*

*Pope Benedict XVI*

## TOP REASONS TO ATTEND

### ⇒ **An E-Approach to Catechetical Ministry**

Interactive Connections offers you the opportunity to learn about the cutting edge technologies which are driving student development and educational advancement in a faith-based learning environment.

### ⇒ **Best Practices and Inspiration**

Explore and learn from those who are using the emerging technologies in faith formation and parish life. Interactive Connections offers an opportunity to come away with tips and techniques that can be brought back to your catechetical ministries.

### ⇒ **Nonstop Networking Opportunities**

Network with colleagues in a supportive environment that...

- enlists recognized catechetical technology leaders as peer advisors and role models,
- shares ideas at "roundtable" meals, dinners, and other networking moments,
- begins to explore the development of 21st Century parish models for learning technology,

### ⇒ **Collegial Environment**

Enjoy easy access to speakers and vendor representatives in an engaging relaxed environment where the common goal remains professional growth, with an emphasis on sharing solutions to specific faith challenges with the integration of technology.



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## INTERACTIVE CONNECTIONS

# Catechesis in the 21st Century: Ministering in a Digital World Schedule

### Tuesday, January 12

3:00 - 7:00 PM      Registration  
7:00 - 9:00 PM      Networking and Social

### Wednesday, January 13

7:00 - 8:00 AM      Registration  
8:00 AM      Leave for Annunciation Catholic Academy, Altamonte Springs, Florida  
9:15 - 9:30 AM      Welcome and Introduction in the Media Center  
9:30 - 10:00 AM      Session I  
10:10 - 10:40 AM      Session II  
10:50 - 11:20 AM      Session III  
11:30 - 1:00 PM      Lunch in Cultural Center  
1:00 PM      Return to Doubletree Orlando Resort  
2:00 - 5:00 PM      Digital Storytelling, Doubletree Orlando Resort  
5:00 - 5:30 PM      Prayer  
5:30 - 6:00 PM      Break  
6:00 - 7:30 PM      Dinner  
7:30 PM      Evening Free for Networking

### Morning Program—Visiting Annunciation Catholic Academy—Technology and more...



Ever wonder what is happening everyday in educational technology at the elementary level? Visiting Annunciation Catholic Academy will allow you to see what is possible in the classroom. A variety of classes will be available for you to visit (schedule provided on your arrival at the school). You will experience what classroom teachers are using to integrate technology into Religion and into other subjects. You will have time during the conference schedule to begin to explore what it takes to plan for and implement technology in a classroom setting. Both Dr. Curran and Ms. Jones will be available to answer your questions on what it takes to integrate technology into the 21st Century Learning Experience.

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## School Information

Annunciation Catholic Academy is a parish school committed to fulfilling the Church's mandate to teach the Gospel and the tenets of our Catholic faith. Guided by the Holy Spirit, the Academy strives to teach as Jesus taught and to affirm the values of living as Jesus lived. Annunciation Catholic Academy is committed to preparing its students to live out their faith in a global, technological society. Since our opening in 1996, the Academy has continued to thrive! We have graduated over 600 students who have gone on to excel in high school and universities across the nation.

During its relatively brief history, the Annunciation Catholic Academy has been recognized for its outstanding work in the field of Catholic education. In 1999 and again in 2002, the Academy was honored by the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) and Boston College for exemplary programs in technology integration and middle school advisories respectively. The School Board was recognized as a distinguished School Board by the NCEA in 2003, and the Home and School Association was similarly honored by the NCEA in 2004. Our test scores are uniformly high, and in 2003, Annunciation Catholic Academy was recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as a No Child Left Behind/Blue Ribbon School of Excellence. The award is given annually to schools whose standardized test scores are in the top 10 percent of the nation. Annunciation Catholic Academy continues to obtain qualifying scores each year. Our community's service efforts include filling a large tractor trailer with items that were needed by victims of the hurricane that struck the Gulf Coast states. Students, teachers, and administrators have welcomed children from New Orleans who lost their homes and moved to Orlando temporarily. A school in Mississippi that was in need of immediate supplies following a hurricane received the assistance of our school community. When the tsunami struck Sri Lanka, the principal began a fund to help rebuild a Catholic school in that country. Students enthusiastically became involved, and the school in Sri Lanka is being built. Each year school uniforms are donated to students in an orphanage in Jamaica and a mission in Nicaragua. Funds are currently being raised to build a school for children in the Dominican Republic.

## Dr. Margaret Curran

Dr. Margaret E. Curran is the founding principal of Annunciation Catholic Academy, which was established in 1995. In 2004 Annunciation was proud to be the recipient of the No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon School of Excellence. The US Department of Education honored the Academy's students' standardized test scores for being in the top ten percent of the nation.

Dr. Curran routinely presents at national and regional conferences and has been instrumental in forming the Forum for Catholic Elementary School Principals under the auspice of the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA). She is president of the Department of Elementary Schools Executive

Committee of the NCEA and truly enjoys sharing experiences with educators across the country.



## Lisa Jones

Lisa Jones was hired as the Technology Specialist at Annunciation Catholic Academy prior to the school's opening. She is a Certified Network Administrator whose primary responsibilities include teacher training, as well as network management and hardware and software procurement and implementation.



## Afternoon Program—Proclaiming our Story: Around the eCampfire

Join Tim Welch and the Global Church Project Team for an afternoon to learn exciting and creative ways of Digital Storytelling.

The afternoon session will explore how stories have been passed down through the ages in order to define culture and to form faith. Join us for an overview of over 26,217 years of storytelling that uses the most appropriate tools for making our faith tradition known. Tim will help us understand how we can gather around the eCampfire with our faith stories.

The Global Project Team will share with us how they have engaged in a project to animate and connect secondary Religious Education (RE) students in Australia with their counterparts in the United States through the use of Information & Communication Technologies (ICT). In response to Pope Benedict's invitation to *bear witness to your faith through the digital world*, combined with the Church's **Year for Priests**, this project engages students in evangelization through research and presentation of the diverse facets of priestly ministry. Building on the enthusiasm generated in WYD08, these students will be provided with the opportunity to gain further appreciation of, and immersion in, the universal Church as they meet their fellow pilgrims from half-way around the world.

### Come meet Our Global Church Project Team

Anthony Munro, Catholic Education Office, Sydney Education Officer - Religious Education  
Jenny Foldes, All Saints Catholic Boys College, Liverpool, Religious Education Coordinator  
Moirra Loader, Our Lady of Mercy College, Burraneer, Religious Education Coordinator  
Christina Trimble, Our Lady of Mercy College, Burraneer, Principal  
Kathy Brasseur, St. Petersburg Catholic High School, Religion Teacher  
Michael Geelan, Bishop Moore High School, Orlando, Religion Teacher  
Brian Lemoi, Office of Evangelization & Lifelong Faith Formation, St. Petersburg Diocese, Director  
Caroline Cervený, SSJ-TOSF Interactive Connections, Florida, President  
Students from Sydney, Australia and St. Petersburg and Orlando, Florida, USA



### Join Tim Welch

Tim Welch is the Consultant for Educational Technology at Catholic Education Ministries, Diocese of Saint Cloud, MN. With more than 30 years of experience at both the parish and diocesan levels, he is constantly seeking ways of journeying with others to implement new technologies that can serve ministry and catechesis. He takes pride in working collaboratively in exploring new technologies when they seem promising but sometimes daunting.

Tim holds degrees in Theology and Religious Education from Saint John's University in Collegeville, MN, as well as in Electronics Engineering Technology from Savannah Tech in Savannah, GA. Tim credits much of his knowledge about faith and life from his three grown daughters and his spouse

of thirty-three years.

Tim is currently the National Consultant for Technology in Ministry for Our Sunday Visitor Curriculum Division, formerly Harcourt Religion Publishers.

### First Section - eCampfire Stories and Songs

This section focuses on stories being spoken and sung through the ages around the campfire... and

how we can hear and tell our Story today through Podcasting, MP3 files and more! We will explore ways of harvesting audio from the Internet, and ways of creating our own audio stories. (Emphasis on orality/audio):

### **Second Section—The Global Church Project Team**

The international team of students and faculty will share how they engaged in Digital Storytelling, highlighting the ministry stories of the priests interviewed during the Year of the Priest. They will also highlight how the students in Australia collaborated with their counterparts in the USA through the use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT).

### **Third Section - eCampfire Illustrations and Illuminations**

The campfire may be too dim for a close look at photos... but the eCampfire is not! This section will look at tools we can use to add graphical illustrations and illuminations to our stories, as well as exploring how others tell their stories through graphics and photos. (Emphasis on print and pictures)

### **Third Section - From the eCampfire to the eTheatre**

We will look at how stories are told using video clips from various online resources such as YouTube, Vimeo and Wingclips plus video resources accessible through iTunes (for Windows and Macintosh). We will learn how to capture these clips for use in PowerPoint presentations, and even look at tools for creating our own video stories. (Emphasis on secondary orality/multimedia/video)

### **Fourth Section Wrap-up - Considerations for Digital Storytelling: Can OUR Story Go Viral?**

If our digital natives speak the language of technology, shouldn't we be using that same language to echo our Story so they can hear it? Shouldn't we be using Digital Storytelling to engage our learners, and enable them to echo the Story themselves? This session will discuss who is telling their story well, how they are telling their story well, and what we should consider in telling our Story well... to the point of going "viral". (Emphasis on principals of creation, use and going viral)

### **Thursday, January 14**

7:00 - 8:00 AM Registration

7:45 - 2:45 PM FETC SESSIONS and Exhibit Hall (Note: Sr. Angela Ann and I will be reviewing the overall FETC program and making recommendations of sessions that will be of interest to religious educators. For example: Effective Use of Web 2.0 Tools with Middle School Students • 100+ Free Internet Resources for Classroom Teachers • Digital Video: Authoring the Educational Viral Video • Investing in Technology During Difficult Times • Best Practices for Using Games in the Classroom • and more... . To view the entire FETC Program go to: <http://www.fetc.org>.)

4:00 - 5:30 PM Networking and more... After time at FETC, we will gather back at our hotel for a time to explore what we've learned from the day and to process the day with one another.

5:30 PM Prayer

6:00 - 6:30 PM Break

6:30 - 8:00 PM Dinner

### **Friday, January 15**

7:00 - 8:00 AM Registration

7:45 - 2:45 PM FETC SESSIONS and Exhibit Hall—To view the entire Friday FETC Program go to: <http://www.fetc.org>

4:00 - 5:30 PM Networking and more... gather back at the hotel.

5:30 PM Evening Free