

*You are invited to attend
the Wilmington Diocesan training conference
BIC: Building Intercultural Connections
at St. Catherine of Siena, Wilmington, DE
on Saturday, February 22
from 9:30 AM to 6:00 PM
or
at St. John the Apostle, Milford, DE
on Saturday, April 5
from 9:30 AM to 6:00 PM*

For who: Priests, deacons, religious, lay leaders, liturgists, educators, and outreach coordinators, and anyone who desires to hear God say, “I was a stranger and you welcomed me.”

Goals: Those who attend this conference will increase their capacity to welcome, receive, and encourage all emerging cultural groups into the Church. *Building Intercultural Connections* [BIC] provides an opportunity for participants to attain a foundational level of competence in intercultural relations and communications. BIC is intended to help all of us shape the Church of the future, filled with believers from all different backgrounds. It challenges us to investigate why we think, believe, and act the ways we do, and helps us to learn these things about others as well.

Origin: The outstanding curriculum was designed by the Committee on Cultural Diversity of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and has been tested and refined here and in dioceses throughout the U.S.

Highlights include: Presentations and conversations between diverse sisters and brothers, prayer, lively music, a variety lunch menu, and a closing multi-cultural mass at 5:00 PM.

Cost: Free. A 5\$ offering can be made for coffee, pastries, and a delicious multi-cultural lunch featuring plates from different countries.

This event is sponsored by the Diocese of Wilmington in partnership with the U.S. Catholic Conference of Bishops.

Program Objectives:

1. Increase awareness regarding how to communicate *appropriately and effectively* with persons and groups in cultures other than one's own.
2. Provide a rationale for the inclusion and integration of diverse cultural groups into the life and mission of the parish and diocese.
3. Articulate the vision of "a parish" in intercultural settings, including the manner in which the Magisterium understands the concepts of evangelization, the New Evangelization, and inculturation.

The 5:00 PM closing mass will be multi-cultural and fulfill Sunday mass obligation.

For further information contact:

- Jeannie Fleming at [\(302\) 539-8070](tel:3025398070) or frogfarmnj@hotmail.com
- Deacon Luke Yackley at [\(410\) 642-6534](tel:4106426534) or dlyackley@goodshephrd.org
- Br. Chris Posch at [\(302\) 655-0518](tel:3026550518) or chrisposch@gmail.com

What are they saying about BIC? Reaction of some participants from recent BIC conference:

- *"Most informative and honest conference I have ever attended. Sharings were right from the heart!"*
- *"Skits and table discussions were excellent."*
- *"Food was great."*
- *"I stayed the whole day!"*
- *"Great content, practical."*
- *"Excellent personal stories, new faces."*
- *"Terrific Team, diversity of presenters."*

Experience BIC!

To register: Complete the form below and fax to [\(302\) 655-7684](tel:3026557684); or mail to the Diocesan Hispanic Ministry Office, 1010 W. Fourth Street, Wilmington, DE 19805; or complete online registration on diocesan website www.cdow.org and click into the *News and Upcoming Events Section*.

Registration deadlines:

- **February 10:** For Feb. 22 BIC at St Catherine of Siena, Wilmington
- **March 24:** For April 5 BIC at St. John the Apostle, Milford:

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Name: _____

Complete Address: _____

Phone numbers: _____

E-mail: _____

Parish: _____

Your ministry: _____

I am registering to attend BIC on: (Check one):

_____ February 22 at St Catherine of Siena, Wilmington

or

_____ April 5 at St. John the Apostle, Milford