

# MINI-MESSENGER

Volume 42 Number 6, December 2012

## The Official Newsletter of the Diocese of Davenport

Published Monthly

Deacon David Montgomery, Director of Communication, Editor

### CLOSING

The diocesan offices and Catholic Messenger office will be closed December 24 – January 1. Business will resume as usual on Wednesday, January 2.



### FROM BISHOP AMOS

You are invited to join Fr. Ted Marszal and me for a “Year of Faith Pilgrimage”, a thirteen-day cruise aboard Royal Caribbean’s Serenade of the Seas on September 27 – October 10. Our ports of call will be Barcelona, Florence, Venice, Dubrovnik, Rome, Ravenna, Naples and Cannes. See the famous Leaning Tower of Pisa, walk the quaint French town of Cannes, visit St. Mark’s in Venice, pray at the tomb of St. Peter in Rome. Mass will be celebrated daily. Prices based on double occupancy include airfare, transfers, cruise, taxes and fees: inside cabin \$3,388; outside cabin \$3,688; balcony cabin \$3,988 pp. Insurance is optional: \$209 pp. For information contact Independence Travel, 800-899-9950 or [carriebirol@aol.com](mailto:carriebirol@aol.com).

### FINANCE

**Calendar Year-End Filing Requirements:** As the end of the calendar year approaches, you are reminded of the following required annual filings:

- Donations – Provide donors with written confirmation for all contributions by January 31.
- Payroll – Furnish each employee a completed W-2 by January 31. File the W-3 transmittal form with the Social Security Administration by February 28. Do not send the final 941 until everything is balanced for the year. Be sure the Mass stipends for priests on payroll is included on 941s and W-2s.
- Non-Payroll Payments – Provide individuals or entities to whom you made payments of \$600 or more during the calendar year for services, rents, commissions, fees or other non-employee payments with Form 1099 by January 31. File copy A of each Form 1099 with the IRS by February 28. Be sure a 1099 is sent to any priest that is not on payroll and received more than \$600.

A more complete description of these annual filings, along with instructions for reconciliation between the W-2s, W-3 and the quarterly Form 941 will be sent to the pastors and bookkeepers in mid-December. For additional information contact Nancy Karn, [karn@davenportdiocese.org](mailto:karn@davenportdiocese.org) or 563-888-4367.

**Winter Weather Maintenance:** With winter weather fast approaching, it’s important for churches and schools to be prepared. See the attached document for planning and prevention tips for snow and ice removal, frozen pipes and ice dams.

### PROTECTING GOD’S CHILDREN

**To report child abuse contact:** Iowa Department of Human Services Child Abuse Hotline: 800-362-2178 and if it involves clergy or church personnel also notify Alicia Owens, Victim Assistance Coordinator: 563-349-5002, [vacdav@attglobal.net](mailto:vacdav@attglobal.net) or PO Box 232, Bettendorf, IA 52722-0004.

### FAITH FORMATION OFFICE

**Lay Ministry Formation Opportunities:** The Ministry Formation Program is offering Basic Year II (in English and Spanish) and a specialization track on Catechesis. More information can be found on the diocesan website, [www.davenportdiocese.org](http://www.davenportdiocese.org) [Chancery>Faith Formation>Lay Ministry (MFP)] or contact IlaMae Hanisch, 641-791-3435 or [hanisch@davenportdiocese.org](mailto:hanisch@davenportdiocese.org).

Upcoming courses are:

In English	In Spanish	Catechetical track
Old Testament: Dec. 1 & 15	No session	Practicum: Dec. 1
Introduction to Theology: Jan. 5 & 19	No session	Faith & Human Development: Jan 13- Feb. 16

**Marriage and Parenting Resource:** Attached is the December issue of “Marriage Moments and Parenting Pointers.” This is produced by Susan Vogt and she has excellent resources to support couples and families. You have permission to reprint these in your parish bulletin. Please include the web address and information for those who want to read more written by Susan on these family life topics. Go to her website to review her ample resources: <http://www.susanvogt.net/index.html>.

**Marriage Preparation Weekend:**

- January 26-27: Bettendorf, St. John Vianney, *registration deadline is January 18* (space is limited so register early)
- February 23-24: Bettendorf, St. John Vianney, *registration deadline is February 15* (When registering be prepared with an alternate weekend as this weekend is very popular and fills up fast... so early registration is a must!)
- April 27-28: Williamsburg, St. Mary, *registration deadline is April 19*
- August 10-11: Mt. Pleasant, St. Alphonsus, *registration deadline is August 2*
- November: TBA

The registration form is on the diocesan website, [www.davenportdiocese.org](http://www.davenportdiocese.org) (Chancery>Faith Formation>Marriage and Family). Registration is \$125 per couple. For more information contact Barb Butterworth, 563-888-4240 or [butterworthb@davenportdiocese.org](mailto:butterworthb@davenportdiocese.org) or IlaMae Hanisch, [hanisch@davenportdiocese.org](mailto:hanisch@davenportdiocese.org).

**A Teens Encounter Christ (TEC)** retreat will be held Feb. 16-18 at St. Joseph’s Parish in DeWitt. TEC is a three-day retreat for high school juniors and seniors that focuses on the Paschal Mystery and guides them at a time of discernment in their lives. The application packet and a publicity flier can be found at <http://davenportdiocese.org/faithform/TEC.htm>. The application deadline is Feb. 5. **Team members for Teens Encounter Christ (TEC) #70** are being sought. Adults are needed for key leadership roles and as small group mentors. Younger adults and recent TEC candidates can serve in support roles. For the team application, go to <http://davenportdiocese.org/faithform/TEC.htm>.

“Signed. Sealed. Delivered.” is the theme of the **2013 National Catholic Youth Conference**, to be held Nov. 21-23, 2013, in Indianapolis. NCYC is a biennial gathering of more than 23,000 youth and their adult leaders for three powerful days. Go to <http://www.davenportdiocese.org/faithform/Youth%20Ministry.htm> for resources for promoting NCYC at your parish (including links to promotional videos), along with helpful information about costs, deadlines and other factors. The initial estimate deadline has passed, but parish groups interested in joining our diocesan pilgrimage can contact Barb Butterworth, [butterworthb@davenportdiocese.org](mailto:butterworthb@davenportdiocese.org) or 563-888-4240. First deposits of \$80 are due January 11.

The diocesan **Junior High Youth Rally, “How Do You Measure,”** will be held Sunday, March 17, at Regina Catholic Education Center in Iowa City. The keynote act will be 5thousand, featuring the comedy and music of Mike and Bryan, two great guys from South Carolina. Registration information will be e-mailed to parish leaders soon.

**Youth Retreat Dates:**

- Feb. 16-18: Teens Encounter Christ (TEC) retreat for high school juniors and seniors at St. Joseph, DeWitt
- March 2-3: Quest Retreat for high school freshmen and sophomores at St. James, Washington
- March 8-10: Christ in Others (COR) retreat for high school sophomores, juniors and seniors at St. Joseph, DeWitt
- March 15-17: Christ in Others (COR) retreat for high school sophomores, juniors and seniors at Holy Trinity Parish in Keota
- June 8-10: Teens Encounter Christ (TEC) retreat for high school juniors and seniors, location TBA
- June 30-July 2: Catholics in Action service retreat for high school youth, location TBA

For information about youth ministry events and resources go to [www.davenportyouth.org](http://www.davenportyouth.org).

## **SISTERS OF HUMILITY OF MARY**

**Holiday Movie and Gift Swap:** Dec. 6, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. at the Humility of Mary Center, 820 West Central Park Ave., Davenport. Cost: Free.

### **Doors open at 6:30 p.m.**

Before the film, visit with sisters and hand over your gift swap items. Also, enjoy cookies baked by CHM sisters and associates.

**“The Story of Change”:** A new, fun and informative short film from the Story of Stuff project, “*The Story of Change*” explores why citizens (not shoppers) hold the key to a better world!

**The CHM Holiday Gift Swap Meet:** Why buy new stuff? As a way to reduce, reuse and recycle everyone is invited to bring new or gently used items that are perfect for RE-gifting ... then shop the swap for that perfect gift for one or more on your list! No money necessary. Leftover items will be donated to Humility of Mary Housing and Shelter programs.

***Band of Sisters* Movie:** On Sunday, January 6 at 4:00 pm, the Congregation of the Humility of Mary will host the Quad City premier of *Band of Sisters*, a documentary produced in Chicago about the journey of Catholic sisters in the United States from sheltered “daughters of the church” to citizens of the world. Showing sisters as they are, *Band of Sisters* is a deeply moving story of inspiration and hope for people of all faiths. The film was completed in May 2012 and is 88 minutes long. The Quad City premier will take place in the John Deere Auditorium in the Figge Art Museum in downtown Davenport. Director Mary Fishman will be present for audience discussion after the screening. Tickets are \$5.00 general admission. The event is co-sponsored by the Sisters of St. Francis in Clinton, Iowa.

It is 50 years since Pope John XXIII opened the Second Vatican Council to let a little fresh air into the church, and most Catholic nuns in the U.S. responded to the call for renewal. The film includes fascinating scenes of convent life prior to Vatican II in contrast with the tumultuous and exciting years after the Council, when sisters became engaged with the great social movements of our day.

The renewal process led sisters to new reflections on their mission as followers of Jesus. *Band of Sisters* adeptly illuminates the sisters’ path from direct service to social justice to the transformation of consciousness. The film travels with women religious who continue their mission as organic farmers, environmental attorneys, peace activists, holistic health care practitioners, podcasters, and more. With poignancy, drama and humor, the film fosters well-deserved recognition for its engaging characters and the thousands of sisters like them. For more information visit [www.bandofsistersmovie.com](http://www.bandofsistersmovie.com).

## **SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS, CLINTON**

For more information, call 563-242-7611 or visit [www.clintonfranciscans.com](http://www.clintonfranciscans.com).

**Advent Vespers at The Canticle:** Dec. 2, 9, 16 and 23 at 6:00 p.m. The 45-minute service will include song, reflecting on the Scripture readings of the Advent season and praying together for the blessings of Christmas-time. Various Sisters and Associates will lead the Advent reflections on the theme of spiritual motherhood based on “Bringing Forth Christ: Five Feasts of the Child Jesus,” by St. Bonaventure and the story of St. Francis and The Sultan.

**Advent Retreat: Unwrapping the Gift of Faith: Releasing the Energy of Love in Our World:** December 7 - 9, 7:00 p.m., Friday evening – Sunday noon with Mary Smith OSF, Hilary Mullany OSF and Gabriela Egging. In this retreat we will be talking, thinking and praying about what is central to our dynamic, ever-unfolding faith life—always journeying deeper into the One who is beyond all words, deeper into loving service as part of the community of life on this planet. All are welcome, but registration is limited. Call for details and to register.

**Human Rights Day Prayer Service:** December 10, 6:00 p.m. This day marks the 64<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human rights by all members of the United Nations in 1948. The draft committee, chaired by Eleanor Roosevelt, created the document as a result of the experience of the Second World War. With the end of that war, and the creation of the United Nations, the international community vowed never again to allow atrocities like those of that conflict to happen again.

The prayer service will include a reading of the Declaration, which is regarded as one of the most significant accomplishments of the international body. It will also offer opportunity to join Kathy Kelly's pledge – 2 Million Friends – asking for peace in Afghanistan and to sign the petition to maintain the University of Iowa Center for Human Rights.

### **BENET HOUSE RETREAT CENTER, ROCK ISLAND, IL**

All events held at Benet House Retreat Center, 2200 88<sup>th</sup> Avenue West, Rock Island, IL 61201-7649. To register, contact Sr. Jackie Walsh at 309-283-2108 or [retreats@smmsisters.org](mailto:retreats@smmsisters.org).

**The Word Among Us:** Read, reflect, pray and share with other committed Christians seeking to grow in reflecting on the challenges of Scripture for everyday life. We share a new book each month. Presenter: Sr. Charlotte Sonnevile, OSB; 2 Mondays each month, Dec. 3 & 17; 6:45-8:15 pm; Fee: \$65 for the series or \$5/session & cost of books. For more information call 309-283-2109.

**Centering Prayer:** Join others in a weekly practice of this method for fostering a deeper relationship with God. Leader: Sr. Catherine Cleary, OSB; Wednesdays 1-2 pm; Free Will Offering

**Benedictine Experience Weekend: Come and See!** Fri., Dec. 7, 7pm-Sun. Dec. 9, 1pm. Join other single women exploring a religious vocation. There is time for prayer and interaction with the Benedictine Sisters as well as discussion and quiet time. Sr. Bobbi Bussan, OSB, MA Religious Education and 8 years as Vocation Director, facilitates the weekend experience. Fee: there is no cost; you are our guest!

**Advent Day of Reflection: Mary, Woman of Promise and Courage:** Dec. 8, 9 am-2 pm. This will be a time for reflection on Mary, who “housed” the promise of life in Jesus, the Incarnate One, and whose courage in the face of many unanswered questions, inspires hope. We will listen to Mary's wisdom in struggling to gracefully live life's important moments. Presenter: Sr. Rachel Bergschneider, OSB. Fee: \$40, (incl. lunch)

### **OUR LADY OF THE PRAIRIE RETREAT, WHEATLAND**

Visit [www.chmiowa.org](http://www.chmiowa.org) to learn more about Our Lady of the Prairie Retreat. For direct inquiries: 563-336-8414 or [olpretreat@gmail.com](mailto:olpretreat@gmail.com).

#### **Wednesday, December 5 – The Bible in Iraq Slide Show**

**10:00 am – Noon**

##### **Father Bill Kneemiller**

The slide show as developed by Chaplains Deployed in Iraq (The Biblical lands of the Chaldeans). Father Kneemiller has been deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan and will share a bird's eye view of the biblical land. Mass at 10:00 followed by the presentation, time for sharing and a light meal. Fee: \$8.00

#### **Tuesday, December 11 – Advent come to the Quiet**

**9:30 am – 3:30 pm**

Winter in its darkest time welcomes the Light of the World. Come and be in the quiet at this hectic time of Christmas preparation. Fee: \$20

#### **January 2, 2013 – Ancient Tradition of Prayer with the Heart**

**10:00 a.m.-Noon**

There are many ways to pray and connect with God. Fr. Kneemiller will share his thoughts on prayer and will give examples of how to pray. Mass at 10:00 followed by input on prayer, time for sharing and a light meal. Cost: \$8.00. Call 563-336-8414 to register

Or come for a personal day of quiet at the Prairie. Kathleen Storms, SSND is available for spiritual direction. Call to set up an appointment: 563-374-1092.

#### **Sunday, January 6 – Taizé Vigil Service**

**5:00 pm**

Taizé is an ecumenical movement, drawing Christians of all denominations together in unified prayer. Friends of The Prairie and churches of all faith traditions in the area are being invited to participate. Supper following. Free will offering.

**Thursday, January 17 – New Beginnings Come to the Quiet**

**9:30 am – 3:30 pm**

Come to the Quiet and savor, solitude, nutritious food, and winter at The Prairie. Fee: \$20

**Wednesday, January 23 - Weaving Prayers and Baskets**

**9:00 am – 4:00 pm**

**Kathleen Storms, SSND**

Learn simple basket weaving in the context of prayer and meditation. Fee: \$30

**Saturday-Sunday, January 26-27 – Winter Play**

**Sat. 10:00 am – Sun. 10:00 am**

**Lisa Martin**

Enjoy a day – hiking or maybe cross-country skiing, snow shoeing or sledding in the crisp winter air and hopefully SNOW! Also included: hearty, healthy foods, a warm fireplace and connecting with friends old and new. Bring your own equipment. Fee: \$60

**EAGLES' WINGS COUNSELING AND RETREAT CENTERS, DAVENPORT**

To register, for questions or information about obtaining a spiritual director, or Christian counseling contact Marcia Moore, [marcia@eagleswings.ws](mailto:marcia@eagleswings.ws) or 563-324-7263, <http://www.eagleswings.ws>. Located at 5816 Telegraph Rd., Davenport.

**Healing Mass:** 1:00 p.m. on December 11

**Soaking with a Purpose (SWAP):** Dec. 14 at 7:00 p.m. Spend an evening in the presence of the Lord through praise and worship.

***Listening, the Sacrament of Encounter***, Dec. 6, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. This is a video presentation by Rev. Russ Parker followed by discussion, practice and prayer. Russ is the Director of *Acorn Christian Listening Foundation* whose mission is to bring the love of Jesus Christ to a broken world through [listening](#), [healing](#) and [reconciliation](#). Come for the day, bring a sack lunch. Registration \$20

**SHALOM RETREAT CENTER, DUBUQUE**

To register call 563-582-3592 or send check payable to Shalom Retreat Center with your contact information to: 1001 Davis St., Dubuque, IA 52001. [www.shalomretreats.org](http://www.shalomretreats.org), [info@shalomretreats.org](mailto:info@shalomretreats.org)

**The Bells of Christmas - An Evening of Advent and Christmas Music & Readings**

**Monday, Dec. 10, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.**

**Presenters: Dubuque Community Musicians**

On this evening, we gather to share a meal and to hear the happy, exulting and blissful, heavenly bells and music of Christmas. Let the joyous sounds of the evening carry you through the holiday season and into the new year! Offering: \$22. Register by Dec. 6.

**An Advent Evening of Reflection: Time to Ponder the Meaning of the Season**

**Thursday, Dec. 13, 6:30 - 9:00pm**

**Presenter: Fr. Robert Beck**

In the midst of the busyness of the season, take an evening of quiet to reflect with Fr. Beck on the readings of the season and what we really celebrate during Advent and Christmas. Offering: \$10. Register by Dec. 12.

**Spirituality of Presence Retreat - Being Present to Self and Body**

**Friday, Jan. 4, 7:00pm – Saturday, Jan. 5, 4:00 p.m.**

**Presenters: Lisa Schmidt LMT and Kay Forkenbrock OSF, LMT**

Lisa and Sr. Kay are licensed massage therapists who are trained in a variety of body therapies which are intended to enhance a sense of wellbeing and healing in those they serve. In a technological culture in which the superiority of the mind predominates, we will explore ways of integrating all aspects of the person for greater balance of mind, body and spirit. Offering: Commuters: \$50, includes lunch. Overnight: \$85, includes retreat, continental breakfast, and lunch. Register by January 2.

## Story-Catching: The Art of Telling, Writing and Listening to Life's Stories

Mondays, Jan. 21, Feb. 4 & 18, and Mar. 4

2:00 – 4:00pm

**Instructor/Facilitator: Eileen Miller OSF**

In her book *Storycatcher*, Christina Baldwin says, “Every person is born into life as a blank page – and every person leaves life as a full book...Story is the narrative thread of our experience – not what literally happens, but what we make out of what happens, what we tell each other and what we remember.” This series is based on that idea. We will spend time telling stories and writing stories, mostly our own, but also the stories of others who have influenced us in big or small ways. We will also spend time listening to one another and to those in our daily lives. In the process, we will learn to become “storycatchers.” Offering: \$40/series. Includes coffee & cookies. Register/prepay by Wednesday, Jan. 16.

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To support the ministry of your parish, school and the diocese these groups automatically receive the *Mini-Messenger*:

Deacons	Diocesan Corporate Board	Youth Ministers	Pastoral Associates	Directors/Coordinators of Faith Formation
Parishes	Catholic Foundation Board	Sisters	RCIA Parish Contacts	Diocesan Liturgical Commission
Priests	Parish Lay Directors	Bookkeepers	Diocesan Board of Education	Diocesan Planning Commission
Seminarians	Diocesan Pastoral Council	Principals		

Other interested persons are welcome to subscribe. If you have questions regarding your subscription contact Laurie Hoefling, [hoefling@davenportdiocese.org](mailto:hoefling@davenportdiocese.org).

## Winter Weather Maintenance

With winter weather fast approaching, it's important for your church to be prepared. Snow, ice and freezing temperatures can pose as a potential threat for both your members and your church. It is for that reason your church should consider developing a winter weather maintenance plan. Some suggestions for developing this plan are below.

### Snow and Ice Removal

Some churches have their own members or volunteers perform snow and ice removal. In those cases the following should be considered:

- Designate someone to monitor snow and ice conditions. This individual will be responsible for coordinating snow and ice removal operations.
- During the months when snow and ice will be a concern, monitor weather reports daily. This will give you advanced warning of approaching weather.
- Have snow and ice removal equipment available and ready to go. This includes shovels, ice melt, and snow blowers.
- Apply de-icing products to walkways in front of entrances.
- Isolate problem areas by closing them to the general public, or install signs warning of the potential slip hazard.

### Frozen Pipes

Freezing temperatures can result in frozen pipes inside your building, which may burst and cause extensive water damage. To prevent pipes from freezing and bursting, consider the following precautions:

- Wrap pipes that are exposed to freezing temperatures and in unheated areas with pipe insulation, which can be found in local hardware stores.
- During extremely cold weather, consider turning faucets on to a slow drip or trickle to reduce the chances of pipes freezing.
- If the building will be unoccupied for a period of time, set the thermostat to 50 degrees or higher and have someone check the building daily to make sure the heating system is working.
- If you have a frozen pipe, contact a licensed plumbing contractor as soon as possible.

### Ice Dams

Snow and ice on building roofs can present the risk of water damage due to build-up of ice dams, as well as the remote potential for roof collapse due to the weight of ice and snow. To prevent the risk of ice dams forming, consider the following:

- Make sure the attic has adequate insulation and ventilation;
- Seal any openings in the attic, such as heat ducts and light fixtures;
- Keep gutters, eaves and downspouts clear; and
- Clear snow two to three feet from all roof edges with a snow rake, a specially-designed tool to remove snow without damaging roof components.

Because removing snow and ice from roofs can be a hazardous undertaking and can damage existing roofing components, consider hiring a qualified and insured contractor to complete this work.

By taking the appropriate precautions, you can help protect your church and its members from injury and damage. For more information on winter maintenance, visit [SafeChurch.com](http://SafeChurch.com).

## Marriage Moments & Parenting Pointers: December - 2012

### MARRIAGE MOMENTS

497. Dec. 3 "Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy from carousing and drunkenness and the anxieties of daily life." (Lk 21:34) It's not a sin to have fun but when does partying cross over into drunkenness? How do you know if you've crossed the line? Ask your spouse.

498. Dec. 10: "Love is work. It's good work, if you can get it. But it's work, nevertheless." (Benjamin Cheever) What's the first work project that you and your spouse took on together - painting a room, washing the car, repairing a window, learning better communication skills? What's difficult about working together?

499. Dec. 17: "Rejoice in the Lord always." (Phil 4:4) These words of rejoicing from Gaudete Sunday remind us to be joyful. Why? Because, as John the Baptist reminds us, we are blest if we have enough food and clothing to share. Give a coat to one who has none. Do it today.

500. Dec. 24: "Mary set out and traveled to the hill country." (Lk 1: 39) During the upcoming Christmas season many travel to be with family. If you're traveling or receiving visitors this Christmas, let the children lift your hearts with joy. It's not just about presents but your presence to them.

501. Dec. 31: As the close of the year draws nigh, is there anything you need to ask your family (especially your spouse) to forgive you for? Are there any relatives you need to forgive? It doesn't matter if you were right. Forgive anyway.

### PARENTING POINTERS

497. Dec. 7: (Eve of Immaculate Conception) "Rejoice, Mary...The Lord is with you...You are to conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus." (Lk 1:28-31) Ponder when you first learned that you were pregnant. (Fathers, try identifying with Joseph hearing this news.) Pray for women with difficult or unexpected pregnancies today.

498. Dec. 14: One of the Spiritual Works of Mercy is to "forgive offences willingly." (Mt 6:14) Christmas is generally thought of as a family time, but the hectic pace that precedes it and family gatherings can also be a time of conflict and hurt. Teach your child to forgive siblings, classmates, neighbors. Do it yourself.

499. Dec. 21: Dec. 21 is the longest night of the year - the Winter Solstice. Long, dark nights can be frightening. Light 3 Advent candles with your children tonight to disperse the darkness and remember that Jesus, the Light of the World, is returning.

500. Dec. 28: This is my 500th *Parenting Pointer* and it seems like a fitting way to close out this year. What has your family done 500 times? (dinners together, loads of wash, bedtime prayers...) Have fun figuring out some more with your children.

\*EDUCATORS, LEADERS, & MINISTERS: You are welcome to reprint these MM's and PP's in bulletins, newsletters, and on your website with proper credit, ("By Susan Vogt, [www.SusanVogt.net](http://www.SusanVogt.net)")

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