Dear Catechetical Colleagues,

Our "Essential Concept" this week is **Sacraments of Initiation - Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist**. One great website you might want to check out is [TeamRCIA](http://teemrcia.org). They frequently have webinars and other materials that are very helpful with sacramental preparation.

Please keep our youth and their parish ministers in your prayers as they come together this weekend for the Catholic Youth Convention - Reckless Mercy.

We would also like to remind you that this is **National Vocations Week**. USCCB has posted several resources you can use in your faith formation program to encourage our young people to learn more about the priesthood, diaconate, and consecrated life.

Also, as we draw closer to the season of **Advent**, our newsletter next week will focus on catechetical activities for this very special time on our liturgical calendar! Check the November [Check It Out](http://checkitoutseattlearch.org) newsletter for a quick view of some Advent resources.

For those of you interested in accessing our [archived newsletters and bibliography resource lists](http://archdioceseofseattle.org/newsletters/), you can find them all [here](http://archdioceseofseattle.org/newsletters/). Please note, this link will be posted in all of our following newsletters by the "Essential Concepts" section.

In Christ,

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### Essential Religious Education Concepts

**Sacraments of Initiation**  [966-977, 1212-1419]
The Essential Concepts come from the Table of Contents for the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC). They have been re-organized to fit under the Six Tasks of Catechesis. CCC articles numbers associated with each Essential Concept are listed throughout this document. Referencing CCC article numbers is a recommended resource for catechist preparation.

**TASK 2: Liturgical Education** - Students recognize the presence of Christ and enter into communion with Him through active, full, and conscious participation in the Liturgical celebrations and Sacraments of the Church.

**Implementation Ideas for the Classroom:**

**Religious Education Standards-Essential Concepts Bibliography from the LMC**

*Please note the Library's Essential Concepts list is a working document, being updated on an ongoing basis.*

**Online Resources-Links and Videos**

**Catechist Journey-Sacraments of Initiation: I Pledge Allegiance...**

(LINK)

Here are four thoughts for making connections between the Mass and class discussions.

**Sacraments 101: Baptism (why we baptize)**
Sacraments 101: Confirmation (why we’re confirmed)

Sacraments 101: Eucharist (how we receive)
Resources from the LMC on the Sacraments of Initiation

**Baptism** United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2015. This booklet brings readers on a journey through Baptism, teaching history, Scripture, and the rites and effects of the sacrament along the way. In a simple, joyful way, it outlines the roles and responsibilities of the parents, the godparents, and the baptized. Aimed toward families and those interested in increasing their knowledge of the faith, this booklet will bring you and those you love into deeper understanding and relationship with Christ and his Church.

**Catholic Update Guide to Baptism** (Mary Carol Kendzia) The first sacrament of initiation is not just a one-time event, but an invitation to a lifelong journey of Christian discipleship. Drawing on the trusted and popular "Catholic Update" newsletter, the "Catholic Update Guide to Baptism" will answer your questions about Baptism. Whether you were baptized as an infant or as an adult, this guide will help you fully understand and accept God's call to be renewed in faith and love."
**Sent Forth in the Spirit: A Confirmation Text for Adults** (Patricia Mann)
Addresses the need for adult Confirmation preparation resources. Dr. Patricia Mann designed each chapter of the textbook to offer a deeper understanding of the Catholic Faith which the candidates already profess. In twelve succinct and easy-to-read chapters, the text covers God and the sacraments, the Mass, morality, spirituality, Mary, the saints, and more. The final chapter enthusiastically sends the adult candidates forth to share their strengthened and reinforced faith.

**Eucharist** United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2015. In a few pages, the reader is brought to an appreciation of the depth and mystery of the Eucharist, including a brief guide on how to prepare to approach the Mass. Aimed toward families and those seeking to increase their knowledge about this most important of Sacraments, this booklet will move you and those you love to revere and adore Christ in the Holy Eucharist.

*Looking for an archived newsletter? Check this [link](#) for all previous editions.*

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**Library Media Center Resources**

**Resource Lists**

The Library Media Center has several of the materials listed available. Contact the [library](#) to request items. Our [online catalog](#) is also available to search for materials.

**November Check It Out**-Monthly newsletter highlighting new materials added to the Library Catalog each month—[find some great Advent resources](#)!

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**Upcoming Catechetical Events**

**Religious Education Standards Deanery Workshops**
Contact the [Office of Catholic Faith Formation](#) for information, registration, and scheduling a future workshop.

**PAFF Deanery Meetings**
**Religious Education Standards and Touching Safety Training**
South Seattle Deanery-Tuesday, November 8th I 10:00 am I Holy Rosary Church, Seattle
Pierce Deanery-Thursday, November 10th I 10:30 am I St. Charles Borromeo Church, Tacoma
Southern Deanery -Tuesday, November 15th I 10:00 am I St. Rose Church, Longview
Christifideles Program
The Christifideles program offers graduate formation in Theology & Ministry [Seattle U's School of Theology & Ministry, University of Portland's MAPM Program, University of Dallas' School of Theology & Ministry] partnered with formation & Archdiocesan certification for Lay Ecclesial Ministers. **Recruitment is now taking place for the 2017-2018 academic year.** Please contact the Office of Catholic Faith Formation, 206-382-4096; ocff@seattlearch.org.

Liturgy Workshop Opportunities
Spread the word about these liturgical workshops, events and formation opportunities from the Liturgy Office. Please see the Liturgy Office **Workshop & Events** page for more information.

The Rocks and Stones will Start to Sing
Saturday, January 28th, 2017 I 10:00am -3:00pm I Isaac Orr Conference Center, Chancery
Presenter: Tony Varas, Director of Worship, Diocese of Metuchen, New Jersey. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

PAFF Workshop/Retreat on February 9-10, 2017
February 9-10, 2017-Save the Dates!-More information to come.

Formation Opportunities

Venerate Relics of Pope Saint John Paul II and Saint Faustina Kowalska
The Liturgy Office can coordinate the scheduling of those parishes who wish to arrange for the relics of St. John Paul and St. Faustina to be conveyed to the parish for veneration by the faithful. You may reach the Liturgy Office at 206.654.4652 or by e-mail at andrew.casad@seattlearch.org in order to reserve the relics for your parish, campus ministry, or faith community. For more information regarding the process, click [here](#).

Foundations of Our Catholic Faith - CCP Program
This program includes Scripture, Theology, Catechetics, and Church History to support the Church's mission to evangelize. FOUNDATIONS...provides an opportunity to hear the Gospel message, understand the Church's teachings, and grow in the fullness of what it means to be a disciple of Christ. For class schedules, registration and more, visit the CCP [webpage](#).

Reckless Mercy - Catholic Youth Convention
Saturday & Sunday, November 12-13, 2016 I Washington State Fair Grounds
The theme for the 2016 High School Catholic Youth Convention challenges us to lead lives of mercy with no limits, reaching beyond borders, and to be instruments of mercy. Pope Francis challenges us to listen and respond to the following, "Jesus is inviting you, calling you, to leave your mark on life." Join us for a weekend filled with
interactive and engaging sessions, breakouts, prayer experiences, local youth keynotes and national Catholic presenters. For more information and to register, click here.

"Self-Care and Avoiding Compassion Fatigue" Workshop
Saturday, November 12th I 2:30 pm I St. Benedict Church, Seattle I Students, graduates, and supporters of Cabrini Ministry Training are invited to explore ways to stay energized as care-givers and pastoral ministers; facilitated by chaplain and spiritual director, Kathy Heffernan. Join us at 2:30pm in the dining room of St. Benedict parish in Seattle and stay for mass at 5pm. RSVP at info@cabriniministry.org or 206-760-0583 x3.

Parenting in an Ignatian Spirit (Small Group Reflections for Parents)
2nd Mondays of the month (exceptions asterisked*): Nov 14, Dec 12, Jan 9, Feb 13, Mar 20*, Apr 10, May 15* I 7:00-9:00 pm I St. Joseph Parish Center, Seattle I You and fellow parents will deepen your sense of yourselves, come to an awareness of the spiritual foundations of your parenting, share experiences in the context of a small community, and develop a set of Ignatian-inspired practices to help ground you in moments of challenge. For more information and to register, click here. **Registration Deadline is November 7th.**

2016-2017 Retreat Calendar
There are many opportunities for retreats at the Archbishop Brunett Retreat Center at the Palisades. Please take a look at the retreat schedule and see what great retreats are coming up! To learn more about the Retreat Center, click here.

Grief Support Ministry
Listed in this section are some upcoming events and resources that are occurring in the specified parishes related to grief support. As new events and resources become available, they will be added to this section. Please let us know if there are related events happening around the Archdiocese that should be shared here.

**St. Michael Church, Olympia**
**Bridge of Hope Grief Support Ministry** 8-week group meetings where those who are grieving come together to pray, learn and share with each other.

**Catholic Support Groups** A list of support groups available at St. Michael Parish. Several groups are available such as cancer support and infant loss support.

**St. James Cathedral**
**Grief Support Group** A new 6-week grief support group facilitated by St. James Cathedral staff-Nancy Granger, Suzanne Lee, and Rosanne Michaels.

Jubilee Year of Mercy
Pope Francis has called the special **Jubilee Year for Mercy** to begin Dec. 8, the feast of the Immaculate Conception and the 50th anniversary of the closing of the Second Vatican Council. It will close on Nov. 20, 2016, the day celebrated that year as the feast of Christ the King.

**Brief History of Holy Years and Jubilees in the Church**
by Fr. Thomas Rosica - Salt & Light blog.

**Venerate Relics of Pope Saint John Paul II & Saint Faustina Kowalska**
The Liturgy Office can coordinate the scheduling of those parishes who wish to arrange for the relics of St. John Paul and St. Faustina to be conveyed to the parish for veneration by the faithful. You may reach the Liturgy Office at 206.654.4652 or by e-mail at andrew.casad@seattlearch.org in order to reserve the relics for your parish, campus ministry, or faith community. For more information regarding the process, click here.

**The Arts & Faith Top 25 Films on Mercy**
These films show us visions of a world so often lacking in mercy, as well as worlds in which one merciful act alters the landscape of human experience forever. Produced by the Arts & Faith online community, this list spans 93 years of cinema, from 1921's The Kid and The Phantom Carriage to 2014's Love & Mercy.

**Maryknoll Year of Mercy Resources**
Maryknoll has developed various resources to use for the Year of Mercy:
Watch a Mercy Movie, Record a Mercy Moment, set up a Parish Mission for your community, and more. Email Anna Clarke at aclarke@maryknoll.org with any questions or requests.

**Meditations on Mercy**
Each month during the Jubilee of Mercy the USCCB will offer a Meditation on Mercy-a resource that can be used with small groups to foster a greater awareness of God's call to act with mercy in our lives.

**Archdiocesan Webpage for The Year of Mercy**
Please take a look at all of the resources and current information found dedicated to the Year of Mercy. Be sure to check back often for added events and resources.

**Library Media Center Year of Mercy Resources**
Here is a printable annotated bibliography of resources available from the Library Media Center. Materials may be added to the list, so check back for new titles.

**The Original Image of Divine Mercy-Documentary Film**
A timely documentary, **The Original Image of Divine Mercy** features key witnesses to the mysterious case of a painting that survived the Soviet Occupation of Vilnius, with exclusive commentary by Bishop Robert Barron, George Weigel, Christoph Cardinal Schönborn of Vienna, Stanislaw, and many others including a special footage with Pope Francis. For more information about how to bring the film to your community, contact the production office at tour@divinemercyfilm.com or at 210-232-7647.
Online Courses for the Year of Mercy-Diocese of St. Cloud
Three online courses available. Titles include: Forgive All Offenses/Injury; Comfort the Afflicted; and Shelter the Homeless/Welcome the Stranger.

Divine Mercy for Kids
You can find a dozen free downloadable worksheets for various age groups that explain the Divine Mercy image and devotion. Visit TheDivineMercy.org

Divine Mercy & The Divine Comedy
During this Year of Mercy (December 8, 2015-November 20, 2016) Pope Francis has asked us to use Dante's Divine Comedy as a "spiritual guide." Knowing how intimidating this project sounds, the Department of Evangelization and Catechesis of the Diocese of Rochester has put together a reading plan along with a group of theologians, literary scholars, and other lovers of Dante's work to help us all mine the riches from one whom Pope Benedict XV called "the most eloquent singer of the Christian idea."

A Biblical Year of Mercy
A 13-part series is being published from December 2015 to December 2016 in Arkansas Catholic, the weekly newspaper for the Diocese of Little Rock. These articles are being written by the staff of Little Rock Scripture Study for the Holy Year of Mercy. Each one includes questions for group study.

CRS Year of Mercy Resources
Catholic Relief Services (CRS) has developed a number of resources that illustrate how Catholics in the United States can participate in acts of mercy through CRS. Click here for details.

Archdiocese of Seattle Year of Mercy Prayer Card
Here is a printable prayer card for use in your parish. The prayer card can be printed out using Avery 8387 labels.

Year of Mercy App
Our Sunday Visitor's FREE 365 Days to Mercy app, is designed to accompany you on a spiritual journey during the Jubilee Year of Mercy proclaimed by Pope Francis.

St. James Cathedral Tours
St. James Cathedral is inviting both parishes and school groups to set up visits for the Year of Mercy, which can be just a time of prayer and pilgrimage, or can include a guided tour as well. Corinna Laughlin cloughlin@stjames-cathedral.org or 206-264-2086.

Archdiocesan News
OYYAE Website
Announcing the official launch of oyyae.org, their new online home! Feedback is welcome and encouraged! Please let us know how we can improve this new home, as well as serve you better.
NW Catholic App
The NW Catholic App is now available! Download it for Apple or Android.

NW Catholic Movie & Book Reviews
Check NW Catholic for the latest reviews on books and movies.

MyUSCCB
This Week in Ministry provides timely content every week formatted for use in a variety of ways: parish bulletins, websites, E-newsletters, social media and more.

Featured This Week (Thirty-Second Week of Ordinary Time): The Gospel Serves the Common Good In this statement, Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Kentucky, president of the USCCB, encourages Catholics and all people of good will to be good stewards of the rights they have inherited as US citizens. He also calls on public officials to "respect the rights of people to live their faith without interference from the state." English Spanish

November Meditation on Mercy For this final month of the Jubilee of Mercy, we offer this Meditation on Mercy, a resource that can be used with small groups to foster a greater awareness of God's call to act with mercy in our lives. The resource is based on scripture passages and Misericordiae Vultus, the Bull of Indiction for the Jubilee of Mercy. English Spanish

To learn more about MyUSCCB and to sign up for this helpful resource, visit the USCCB website for more information.

NCCL-Catechetical Update
The National Conference of Catechetical Leaders publishes a weekly newsletter following the Six Tasks of Catechesis.

Webinar Series on Amoris Laetitia
The four Catholic organizations comprising the Strong Catholic Families national partnership (NFCYM, NCEA, NCCL and NACFLM) are collaborating together this fall/winter to host a free four-part webinar series for pastoral and ministry leaders and
teachers on Amoris Laetitia entitled The Pastoral Response in Accompanying Families in Faith. Our goal is to inspire leaders to come up with authentic pastoral responses to Amoris Laetitia, and to engage them in accompanying families in bringing home the faith.

To learn more about this organization and view their resources, visit the website.

**Featured Websites**

### Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship

The Catholic bishops of the United States are pleased to offer once again to the Catholic faithful Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship ([en Espanol](#)), our teaching document on the political responsibility of Catholics. This statement represents our guidance for Catholics in the exercise of their rights and duties as participants in our democracy. We urge our pastors, lay and religious faithful, and all people of good will to use this statement to help form their consciences; to teach those entrusted to their care; to contribute to civil and respectful public dialogue; and to shape political choices in the coming election in light of Catholic teaching. The statement lifts up our dual heritage as both faithful Catholics and American citizens with rights and duties as participants in the civil order. Hard copies and the DVD are available for loan from the Library Media Center.

### Liturgy Training Publications

**Virtual Training Opportunities for Teachers and Catechists (2016)**

Designed specifically for teachers and catechists, this series invites all those who work with children to engage in formation and training throughout the year.

### Pope Francis' Monthly Prayer Intentions on Video

Apostleship of Prayer receives monthly prayer intentions from the Pope and urges Christians throughout the world to unite in prayer for those intentions. Each month Pope Francis will film his monthly prayer intention and it will be distributed on social media. Check back for a new video on the next month's prayer intention.
Word On Fire Show

A weekly podcast from Bishop Robert Barron on faith and culture. Each week, the Word On Fire Show will release a new episode featuring Bishop Barron and our Content Director, Brandon Vogt. To learn more information and find out how to subscribe (iPhone, Android, PC, etc.) to this great resource, click here!

Catholic Publishers

Loyola Press
Our Sunday Visitor
Sadlier
RCL Benziger
Ignatius Press
St. Mary's Press
Ave Maria Press
Ascension Press
Lighthouse Catholic Media

Helpful Links

NFCYM-Strong Catholic Families, Strong Catholic Youth
A collaborative effort by four national Catholic organizations to help church leaders envision how the Catholic Church can more effectively partner with parents to help bring home the faith.

21st Century Catholic Evangelization
Serving Catholic leaders in their ministry of evangelization with curated knowledge, approaches, strategies, and resources to reach out to those who have never heard the gospel proclaimed, to re-engage those who have lost a living faith in their daily lives, and to engage those who are faithful and need to be renewed with increased catechesis.

Catechist Journey
Sharing the Journey of Teaching the Catholic Faith. Joe Paprocki's blog that features practical tips and resources on sharing the gift of the Catholic faith.

eCatechist
eCatechist.com is a blog from Dan Pierson, that provides ideas, inspiration, and learning resources for catechists, parish catechetical leaders, and parents.

TeamRCIA
TeamRCIA.com is a free online resource for Catholic parishes and dioceses that want to form Christians for life. Offers a variety of online and in-person training for church ministers and volunteers, through webinars, e-mail courses, downloads, discussion forums, and training events led by experts in the field of initiation ministry.

Teaching Catholic Kids
Teaching Catholic Kids is a valuable tool for parents, teachers and catechists. Free downloadable activities and teacher resources are updated each month and made available from the best of Our Sunday Visitor books, workbooks and writers.

**Vibrant Faith at Home**
Vibrant Faith @ Home supports Christian leaders and families who are intentional about their faith and religious practice as they raise the next generation of committed Christians.

**Word On Fire**
Word on Fire Catholic Ministries is a nonprofit global media apostolate that supports the work of Father Robert Barron and reaches millions of people to draw them into- or back to- the Catholic faith. Word on Fire is evangelical; it proclaims Jesus Christ as the source of conversion and new life. Word on Fire is Catholic; it utilizes the tremendous resources of the Roman Catholic tradition-art, architecture, poetry, philosophy, theology, and the lives of the saints- in order to explain and interpret the event of Jesus Christ.