

Archdiocese of Seattle Faith Formation Newsletter November 28, 2016

Dear Catechetical Colleagues,

Welcome to Advent, our wonderful season of preparing ourselves to more deeply invite the presence of Christ in our lives! Please continue to check out our resources for this time on our liturgical calendar.

As many of you may know, The Catholic Bishops of Washington State have just promulgate their [pastoral letter](#) on poverty. "**Who Is My Neighbor**" calls Catholics in Washington State to pray and act in solidarity with those who lack the necessities of life. The [study guide](#) here provides a step-by-step process for conducting parish discussion sessions. To order study guides for your parish, simply fill out the [order form](#) with your information and return to the Washington State Catholic Conference at theresa@thewscc.org.



Additionally, the bishops have prepared two videos to promulgate the pastoral letter, a shorter version suitable for promoting the pastoral letter in your parish, and a longer version for use with the study guide. These videos are in the final stages of production and will be available to parishes next week.

Our "Essential Concept" this week is the Sacraments of Service and Communion. As we know, faith-filled marriages and parents are the most important element for raising the next generation of Catholics. If you would like to learn more about the latest research in this area, we invite you to review the following [video](#).

Encouraging our young people to consider how God is calling them to the vocations of [marriage](#), [religious life](#), and the [priesthood](#) are essential in our roles as catechists. We are fortunate that USCCB and many other Catholic institutes offer us a rich source of online resources.

For the many of you, who have participated in our Child and Youth Protection workshops these past few weeks, we would like to thank you for your graciousness, your insights, and the many recommendations you have provided to enhance this training program. Please do keep checking the Safe Environment Faith Formation/Youth Ministry [webpage](#), as we will be both revising the grade level lesson plans and adding new information for parents and educators during the month of December. We will also be marking items as "updated" for your easy reference as we make these changes. Please note, there are **two upcoming Touching Safety "Sacred Selves" deanery workshops** coming up. See below.

Remember to mark your calendars now, for our February 9-10 retreat on **Redeeming Conflict: Fruitful Ways to Minister Together** with Dr. Ann Garrido! We will be opening registration in early January!



In Christ,

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Essential Religious Education Concepts

Sacraments at the Service of Communion [1533-1666]

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-Because It's the Right Thing To Do (The Sacraments at the Service of Communion) (LINK)

Sacraments 101: Holy Orders (what ordination means)



[What's My Vocation?](#)



[Sacraments 101: Matrimony \(why make it Catholic\)](#)



[Holy Spouses](#)



Resources from the LMC on the Sacraments at the Service of Communion

Finding Christ in Your Marriage (Kevin Perrotta) For Christians, there can be no better way to understand what marriage should be like than by studying marriage in the Bible. From Genesis to the Gospels to Paul's letters, examples of marriage in the Bible can help husbands and wives improve their own marriages. *Finding Christ in Your Marriage* is an excellent Bible study for any married couple who wants to grow closer to each other while growing in their commitment to God.

When Divorce Is Not an Option: How to Heal your Marriage and Nurture Lasting Love (Gregory Popcak) God has put you and your spouse together for a reason - and it's not to argue. You are bonded together to cultivate in each other those virtues that lead to sanctification. That's why this book isn't just about saving your marriage - it's about transforming it into a joyful, loving relationship.

Beloved Marriage Series: Finding Happiness in Marriage (Augustine Institute, Study Program) Explores the essential realities of marriage, dealing with the deepest spiritual, emotional, and practical aspects of what the sacrament means for those preparing to get married as well as those who yearn for a richer married life. Through an exploration of Scripture, Tradition, and Church teaching, God's plan for marriage will come alive.

Priests: An Inside Look (John Mack) Rev. John Mack reflects upon his ministerial journey in light of the sacrament of Holy Orders and the Rite of Ordination. He describes the requirements, the opportunities, the work, the rewards, and the challenges of the priesthood.

The Sacrament of Holy Orders: Past and Present (Kathleen Chesto, DVD) This informative presentation is recommended for adult study groups, RCIA teams, and parish leaders. Dr. Chesto leads the viewer through the development and history of the sacrament of holy orders starting with Old Testament times to post-Vatican II. Guide material and the presentation itself offer adults a better understanding of the importance of the sacraments in today's church and world.

Where Do Priests Come From? (Elizabeth Ficocelli) This is a book for young children about discerning a call to the priesthood, and the process involved in becoming a priest. Topics include seminary formation, diocesan priests, religious orders, celibacy, and vestments. Written in simple language and illustrated in color. Includes a one-page vocabulary list.

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

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!*

[Advent Jesse Tree Slideshow](#) from Loyola Press

[Living the Eucharist for Advent and Christmas](#)

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 *(New date added!)*

Religious Education Standards and Touching Safety Training (Register [here](#))

South King Deanery-Friday, December 9th | 10:00 am | St. Vincent de Paul, Federal Way

North Seattle Deanery-Wednesday, December 14th | 11:00-2:00 | Blessed Sacrament, Seattle

Mass For Life

Monday, January 23rd, 2017 | 9:30 am | Marcus Pavilion, Saint Martin's University, Lacey Due to limited parking, all are encouraged to use buses or carpool. Directions to campus and parking are available [online](#). For Mass details: Liturgy Office, 206-382-4878. For parking and other questions: ocff@seattlearch.org

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 | 10:00am -3:00pm | 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](#).

An Advent Evening of Prayer "Welcoming the Stranger Home"

Tuesday, December 6th | 7:00 pm-9:00 pm | St. Joseph Church, Seattle. What would it mean to welcome and make a home in our hearts for the immigrant... the stranger... the Other? Might we encounter Beauty in an unexpected place? Jesus on earth? Contemplate the immigrant stories of the Holy Family, our presenters, and your own. Give yourself time this Advent to breathe during a hectic season and rest in an evening of silence, prayer, art, music, & reflection. *Event is free of charge, and all are invited to attend. Donations appreciated.* For more information, visit www.ignatiancenter.org. If you have questions or to RSVP, contact andrea@ignatiancenter.org or (206) 329-4824. Sponsored by the Ignatian Spirituality Center, Seattle.

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.

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 (First Week of Advent): [Advent Focus: Preparation and Expectation](#) Catholic journalist Mike Nelson looks at the meaning of the Advent season and how Catholics are called to focus on directing their hearts and minds to the return of the risen Christ as well as welcoming and receiving the Christ Child on Christmas Day.

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.

A 4-Day Journey through Transformational Encounters...

Monday, May 22 - Contemplation - Personal Transformation

Tuesday, May 23 - Imagination - Prophetic Communal Transformation

Wednesday, May 24 - Vision - Articulating a Catechetical Future

Thursday, May 25 - Missionary - Leadership for the World

[Learn more about the Transformative Leadership theme for #NCCL2017 here.](#)

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

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.



November 2016

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](#)

[st. Mary's Press](#)

[Our Sunday Visitor](#)

[Ave Maria Press](#)

[Sadlier](#)

[Ascension Press](#)

[RCL Benziger](#)

[Lighthouse Catholic Media](#)

[Ignatius Press](#)

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.

Stay Connected



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