

# Archdiocese of Seattle Faith Formation Newsletter December 5, 2016

**Dear Catechetical Colleagues,**

As we move into the second week of Advent, we hope you are taking advantage of our [resources](#) for this wonderful season, which are being updated weekly. Also, it is not too late to check out the **daily [Advent calendar](#) on the NW Catholic website!**

**[Our Lady of Guadalupe](#) at St. James on December 3rd and [Simbang Gabi](#) are wonderful events occurring this month.** Both of these events offer wonderful ways to lift up our "Essential Concept" this week on [Liturgical Calendar](#). For those of you planning ahead into the Christmas season, please look here for ideas.

**Tomorrow, December 6th, Paulist Evangelization Ministries is hosting a [webinar](#) on *Personal Encounter: A New Strategy for Parishes*.** If you are unable to attend the live webinar, it will be recorded, so you can register and watch it at a later time or date.

There is still space for the **[Young Adult retreat](#) being held on December 9-11 at the Archbishop Brunett Retreat Center.** If you know of someone interested in this great opportunity, we hope you will encourage them to consider attending.

We continue to offer trainings for the children's safe environment program. We will be at **St. Vincent de Paul on December 9th and Blessed Sacrament on December 14th.** You can register [here](#) and the link for lesson plans and other information is at [HR/SEP/FFYM](#). We will be posting information about a training site in the South Sound Deanery in the near future.

We are excited that Fr. Scott Steinkerchner OP will be co-presenting with Dr. Ann Garrido for our **[Redeeming Conflict](#)** retreat on February 9-10. He will also be offering us an opportunity to celebrate the Sacraments during our time together. Although this event is for our faith formation leaders, we believe it will also be of interest to our parish and school administrators, so we hope you will invite them as well!

In Christ,

Anne Frederick, Ed.D.

Director of Religious Education [anne.frederick@seattlearch.org](mailto:anne.frederick@seattlearch.org)

Lisa Hillyard

Library Media Center Manager [lisa.hillyard@seattlearch.org](mailto:lisa.hillyard@seattlearch.org)

---



---

## Essential Religious Education Concepts

### Liturgical Calendar [1163-1173]

*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-The Liturgical Calendar, the Paschal Mystery, and the Grand Canyon (LINK)

[Ready for the New Year?](#)



[Being Catholic: Seasons and Feasts](#)

-



[Liturgical Year](#)

-



### Resources from the LMC on the Liturgical Year

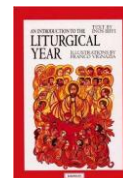
#### ***Opening and Closing Prayers for the Liturgical Year*** (Lorraine Kilmartin)

A collection of 120 prayers that follow the liturgical calendar, highlighting major Catholic feasts, solemnities, and memorials, as well as secular holidays. Each liturgical season is celebrated with specific prayers ranging from traditional to contemporary, each dedicated to themes and images of the season.

#### ***Homiletic Directory*** (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops)

Take a look at how to prepare for a homily with the Word of God (Part I) and the art and method of preaching (Part II). Get ideas on how to root a homily in the unity of Scripture, the Tradition of the Church, and teachings that have been handed down. Find solid guidance for each Sunday and feast day of the liturgical year plus weekdays, weddings, and funerals. Use the appendices for further references from the Catechism of the Catholic Church and Magisterial teachings. The Homiletic Directory is a powerful and necessary resource for deacons, priests, and bishops-both newly ordained and seasoned preachers.

***Holy Days: Meditations on the Feasts, Fasts, and Other Solemnities of the Church*** (Pope Benedict) According to Pope Benedict XVI, "the liturgical year is a great voyage of faith on which the Church sets us out." The feast days in the Church's liturgical calendar follow the major events of Jesus' life as recounted in the Gospels. This cycle gives a rhythm to the life of the Church and helps Christians better understand the divine mystery. Especially in our secularized society, liturgical practices guide and deepen our path, centering our focus on Christ and teaching us how to live. Beginning with Advent and concluding with the feast of Christ the King, Pope Benedict's Holy Days presents excerpts from selected homilies that he has given over the course of the liturgical year in Rome. The book is organized by season and feast days, with brief introductions. This short devotional volume will be a welcome resource for priests and parishioners seeking to focus their minds in preparation for worship.



***An Introduction to the Liturgical Year*** (Inos Biffi) An explanation of the liturgical calendar and its annual cycle of dates, describing events in the life of Jesus and discussing their significance to the Christian church.

***Being Catholic: Seasons and Feasts*** (DVD, Oblate Media & Communications) Part of our everyday experience is the changing of seasons like special days that recall important events in our history. Our experience also includes religious celebrations and observances that honor important events in religious history. This program provides a comprehensive presentation of the special days and seasons of the Church year so that students and parents will be better able to participate in the liturgy with understanding. Engaging illustrations help make the subject come alive, and easy to remember. For Confirmation prep, RCIA, and for those of us who just may have forgotten some important ways to participate in the liturgical life of the Church.

***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!*

**[Fr. Mike Schmitz video: Advent: More Than a Chocolate Calendar](#)**

**[Daily Advent Reflections from Bishop Barron](#)**

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

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

[December Check It Out](#)-Take this opportunity to learn more about Pope Francis. We celebrate his 80th birthday December 17th.

---

## 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](mailto:ocff@seattlearch.org) For planning purposes, please view this [letter](#) from the Liturgy Office asking for some attendee information. Please pass it on to those who plan on attending this event.

### 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.ignatiancenter.org). If you have questions or to RSVP, contact [andrea@ignatiancenter.org](mailto: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](http://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 (Second Week of Advent): Lectio Divina for the Second Sunday of Advent*** This Lectio Divina for the Second Sunday of Advent is an ideal aid for meditating, contemplating, and praying on one's spiritual preparation for this season. [English](#) [Spanish](#)

***Advent Joy for Imperfect Christians*** As we mark Gaudete Sunday, David Gibson reflects on how Advent helps us look ahead expectantly, pointing us away from despair and toward the joy that accompanies the Lord's coming.

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

### Garaventa Center

The ongoing vision at the [Garaventa Center for Catholic Intellectual Life & American Culture](#) is to entice people from all walks of life to come together and collaborate in novel and compelling ways to shed light and explore grace in this bruised, blessed world. Weekly podcasts are a wonderful feature of this group.



### 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.



December 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



Archdiocese of Seattle  
710 9th Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104  
Office of Catholic Faith Formation  
206-382-4096/[ocff@seattlearch.org](mailto:ocff@seattlearch.org)  
Library Media Center  
206-382-4883/[library@seattlearch.org](mailto:library@seattlearch.org)