Dear Catechetical Colleagues,

As we come closer to celebrating the birth of Christ at Christmas, we hope that you are finding time for prayer and reflection during this often very hectic season. We will not be sending out a newsletter for the next two weeks, as we will be taking some time off for our Holy Days.

Our "Essential Concept" this week, is the Divine Office / Liturgy of the Hours. As you know, this is the prayer of the Church. Catholics across the globe recite the psalms and together ask for God's blessings for the world. How can we incorporate the Liturgy of the Hours into our Advent season?

In 2017, we look forward to reconnecting and we are also anticipating seeing many of you for our retreat on Redeeming Conflict in February. Be on the lookout for an updated flyer with pricing information!

We also hope you have the following dates on your calendar:

- January 10th (9:30 - 2:30) Grief Support Meeting at St. Vincent de Paul in Federal Way- For More Information, contact ocff@seattlearch.org
- January 14th (9:00 - 12:00) Safe Environment for Children South Sound Deanery Training at St. Columban in Yelm
- January 23rd "Mass for Life" at St. Martin’s in Lacey.

You are in our special prayers during this sacred season!

In Christ,

Anne Frederick, Ed.D.
Director of Religious Education anne.frederick@seattlearch.org

Lisa Hillyard
Library Media Center Manager lisa.hillyard@seattlearch.org

Essential Religious Education Concepts
Divine Office/Liturgy of the Hours [1174-1178]

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- Three Ways to Nurture a Catechist's Prayer Life** [LINK]

**What is the Liturgy of the Hours?**
Ask Br. Casey: Liturgy of the Hours
Resources from the LMC on the Divine Office/Liturgy of the Hours

Praying the Liturgy of the Hours: A Personal Journey (Timothy Gallagher) Father Timothy Gallagher, loved for his popular guides to Ignatian spirituality, shares in this informative, inspiring volume his own experiences and insights into the daily prayer of the Liturgy of the Hours, which he has prayed daily for the last 40 years. All around the world, everyday, for hundreds of years, Catholics pray the psalms, and readings from the bible and from tradition, in a formal way called the Liturgy of the Hours. Fr. Tim shares his experiences praying the Liturgy of the Hours for the last four decades and invites the reader into the beauty and possibilities of this simple way of praying.

A Catholic Book of Hours and Other Devotions (William Storey) Storey's compilation of "The Liturgy of the Hours" is presented in language that is both dignified and contemporary, crafted in accordance with Vatican II's liturgical emphasis and promotion of scriptural prayer.

Being Catholic: How Catholics Pray (DVD, Videos with Values) Whatever form it takes, prayer is, at its heart, a communication with God; an acknowledgment that God is present to everyone, is speaking with everyone, and invites everyone to respond. All prayer is, in effect, directed to God, even if addressing Mary or the saints. The saints are asked to join and intercede with the Father and creator, in Jesus' name, prompted by the Holy Spirit. In addition to prayers of intercession, the program explains other types of prayers common in Catholic faith.
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.

More Epiphany Resources and History of...

Epiphany Resources

Advent in 60 Seconds (In Lego!)

Weekly Advent Reflections for Families from Catholic Relief Services

Fr. Mike Schmitz video: Advent: More Than a Chocolate Calendar

Daily Advent Reflections from Bishop Barron

Advent Jesse Tree Slideshow from Loyola Press

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
Religious Education Standards and Touching Safety Training (Register here)
South Sound Deanery-Wednesday, January 14th I 9:00-12:00 I St. Columban Church, Yelm.

An Encounter with "Dreamers": The People Behind the Statistics
Monday, January 9, 2017 I 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm I Chancery Bldg., 910 Marion St. I January 8-14, 2017 is National Migration Week of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB): Creating a Culture of Encounter. The evening will begin with opening remarks by Most Reverend Eusebio Elizondo providing the USCCB's perspective and will be followed by a brief video on this topic. The video will
be followed by a panel conversation with fellow Catholic "Dreamers" from our area moderated by Michael Ramos. At the end of the panel discussion, we will have a Q&A session to collectively explore ways of responding to Pope Francis' and the U.S. Bishops' call to foster a culture of encounter. For more information, contact Joe Cotton: joe.cotton@seattlearch.org or 206-382-4847.

**Mass For Life**
Monday, January 23rd, 2017 I 9:30 am I 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 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.

**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 Retreat Redeeming Conflict: Fruitful Ways To Minister Together**
February 9-10, 2017 I ABRC @ Palisades I Conflict can be a blessing and a fruitful exchange that arises from living and working together in the diverse world God created. In this retreat, Ann Garrido will offer practical habits for responding to conflict, pair each habit with a spiritual companion from history, and offer questions and prayers for growth. **Pricing & registration coming soon!**

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**Formation Opportunities**

**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](#).
Digital Discipleship Boot Camp
Do you want a new learning experience? Do you need to gain digital skills? Or perhaps you want to join a network of Digital Disciples so that you will always have access to the best practices in technology for ministry. Please consider Digital Discipleship Boot Camp online training course. Learn more at Digital Discipleship's event page.

A Winter Day of Reflection: An Examen at the Cusp of the Year
Saturday, December 31, 2016 | 9:00 am - 3:00 pm | St. Joseph Parish Center, Seattle
"A Pilgrim's Pondering" Mary Hartrich will lead you through the four movements of a modified Examen, each movement followed by abundant time for personal prayer, silent reflection and journaling. People of all ages, faith traditions and spiritual backgrounds are welcome. Unwind from the holidays - give yourself (or someone else) the gift of this peaceful one-day retreat! Early registration fee - $45 (through Tues, Dec 27) Final fee - $55 (Weds, Dec 28-Sat, Dec 31). Light breakfast, lunch and materials included. Partial work scholarships available. For more information about this day, or for questions about partial work scholarships, contact Andrea Fontana at (206) 329-4824 or andrea@ignatiancenter.org

A Parish Built to Last Retreat for Pastors and Faith Formation Directors
June 30-July 2, 2017 | Led by Fr. Bill Watson, SJ. | ABRC@Palisades, Federal Way
Built to Last is the most fully resourced parish Ignatian program available today. Forty Weeks and the Whole-Life Confession help parishes accomplish what Sherry Weddell did in her important book, Forming Intentional Disciples, which says it is needed for activating the new evangelization that Popes from St. John Paul II to Francis has been calling individual Catholics and parishes to make a reality. This evangelization retreat will include the theological and spiritual components of Forty Weeks and The Whole-Life Confession presented by Fr. Watson. It will also include presentations from laity and clergy from Seattle Archdiocesan parishes who have been successfully implementing the both programs in their parishes. For more information and to register, click here.

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.

Grief Support Meeting (NEW)
Tuesday, January 10, 2016 I 9:30 am -2:30 pm I St. Vincent de Paul Church, Federal Way I Mary Hejnal will present on how we can best serve those dealing with loss. We will also spend time talking about why having a faith centered program is so helpful. We will also discuss the best ways to share resources on the new Archdiocesan webpage for Grief Support Ministry found under Pastoral Care-to be coming soon.
**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.

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**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.

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**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 (Fourth Week of Advent):** *Bringing the Holy Back to Christmas Via Mary*  
Freelance writer Effie Caldarola reflects on her experiences volunteering at a pregnancy support center and on the aspects of anticipation, hope, and mystery that the season of Advent and pregnancy have in common.

**World Day of Peace** This resource offers prayer and action suggestions based on Pope Francis’s theme for the World Day of Peace 2017, which is observed on January 1, 2017.

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

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**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

365 Days with Mary App
365 Days with Mary App is designed to accompany you on a year-long spiritual journey to draw closer to Christ with the help of our Blessed Mother. The Rosary, Marian reflections and other prayers will support you on the way.

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 (New dates!!)
Virtual Training Opportunities for Teachers and Catechists (2017)
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.

Stay Connected