Dear Catechetical Colleagues,

Congratulation to all of the Catholic Schools in our Archdiocese! Since 1974, National Catholic Schools Week is the annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. This year will be celebrated from January 29 - February 4. The theme is "Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service." We hope many of you will be participating in their events, which include Masses, open houses and other fun activities!

Our "Essential Concept" this week is Human Freedom and Conscience Formation. Our Catholic teachings on morality, when properly understood, free us to live a life of excellence and open doors of happiness as well as holiness. Here are some great videos you can use to teach this week's concept.

We are excited so many people have registered for our retreat with Dr. Ann Garrido and Fr. Scott Steinkerchner, OP on February 9 - 10. You still have time to reserve space at the Archbishop Brunett Retreat Center at the Palisades, but we encourage you to register as soon as possible!

Please also check out our upcoming list of Archdiocesan events. Please see the event sections below for specific information for each of the listed occasions:

- Catholics Called to Accompaniment: An Immigration Summit--February 11
- Springtime in Paris: Cabrini Ministry Training Auction & Dinner--February 11
- Retreat with Fr. Jacques Philippe on Personal Prayer Life--February 11
- Liturgy as Source & Summit--February 11
- Grief Support Ministry Gathering with Mary Hejnal--February 14
- Junior High Rally (Souls on Fire)--March 11
- Beginning Experience Weekend for Divorced, Widowed, or Separated--March 11
- Special Needs Mass and Dance--April 1

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

Made for Human Freedom and Conscience Formation [1030-1037, 1730-1802]

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 3- Moral Formation** - Students develop a moral conscience that is informed by Church teachings and conformed to Christ, as modeled in a personal life of virtue, and demonstrated in service of the Gospel's demands for society.

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- Moral Formation, or Living Out Our Faith (LINK)

Isn't Church Too Restrictive?
Making a Good Confession
Bishop Barron on Morality, Character, and Relationships
Resources from the LMC on Human Freedom and Conscience Formation

Putting On the Heart of Christ: How the Spiritual Exercises Invite Us to a Virtuous Life (Gerald Fagin) Offers a fresh look at the Spiritual Exercises through the lens of virtue ethics. In doing so, the book encourages us to become the kind of person whose very life is in tune with the heart of Christ. Fr. Fagin covers 15 virtues throughout the book, including gratitude, reverence, and forgiveness. Each is explained within the context of the Spiritual Exercises and the life of St. Ignatius, as well as within the context of Scripture.

Conscience in Conflict: How to Make Moral Choices (Kenneth Overberg) Offers a readable and up-to-date process for coming to a decision about crucial contemporary personal and social questions. The first part presents the fundamental building blocks of Catholic morality, the basic structures, goals and dynamics of Christian life. The second part turns to specific moral issues: sexual issues, medical issues, war and economics.

A Sacred Voice is Calling: Personal Vocation and Social Conscience (John Neafsey) How do we distinguish between the "still, small voice" of our authentic vocation and all of the other competing counterfeit voices in our hearts and the needs of our world? Drawing widely on the wisdom of saints, sages, and the traditions of spiritual direction, Neafsey describes a path to living in the place, as Frederick Buechner has put it, "where our deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet."
**Living the 10 Commandments for Children** (Rosemarie Gortler) Containing Scripture for the adult reader alongside reverent, yet whimsical explanations designed to hold a child's interest, this book will help families and catechists reinforce a vision of a healthy spiritual life in step with God's plan. An excellent preparation tool for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, the book contains a mini examination of conscience appropriate for children.

**Franz Jägerstätter: A Man of Conscience** (DVD, Maryknoll Productions) In 1938, Hitler's army occupied Austria. All men were ordered to enlist in the military. Franz Jägerstätter, a farmer and father of four, went into military training but refused to fight in Hitler's army, knowing that he would face execution. His neighbors, pastor and even the bishop tried to convince Franz to enlist for the sake of his family. But Franz felt his faith and conscience compelled him to follow the teachings of God and not the decrees of the Third Reich. He was imprisoned, then executed on August 9, 1943 at the age of 36. In 2007, the Vatican declared Franz a true martyr, officially placing him in the process of sainthood.

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.

**Lenten Resources**

**From Passion to Pentecost: A Lenten Reflection** ([Webinar]) “Were you there when they crucified my Lord . . .?” This familiar hymn is a staple in many churches on Good Friday. Have you ever thought about those who would have answered “yes”? What would Mary Magdalene or Simon of Cyrene tell us about their heartbreaking experiences and the aftereffects on their lives of faith? Join Kathy Hendricks for a meaningful Lenten webinar in which we’ll reflect upon six witnesses of Jesus's Passion and Death and the connections each one makes to our own experience. For more information, click [here](#)

**Teaching Second-Graders the Beauty of Lent**- The beauty of Lent offers a time for the Church to relive salvation history. By practicing the penitential disciplines of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, many adults savor this transformative season. But how does an untrained teacher who meets only briefly with her wiggly second-grade faith formation class communicate the beauty and relevancy of Lent in language they can
understand? The short answer: by acting out Christ's desert experience in a way that 
highlights how fasting, prayer, and almsgiving give us strength as we walk with the Lord.

**Maryknoll Lenten Reflection Guide 2017** Contains reflections, questions, 
prayers, and actions based on each week's Gospel reading and the written reflections 
and recorded discussions by the 83 Catholic peacemakers who attended the 
Nonviolence and Just Peace conference in Rome in April 2016. Lent offers us all a 
special opportunity to grow in our relationship with God and to deepen our commitment to 
a way of life, rooted in our baptism. Use this guide individually or in small groups to 
reflect upon our life patterns, to pray more deeply, and renew our spirits to face the 
realities of our world.

**Best Lent Ever** (Dynamic Catholic) Sign up for Best Lent Ever, a FREE, video-based 
email program featuring internationally acclaimed speaker and New York Times 
bestselling author Matthew Kelly. From Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday, Matthew will 
help you identify what stands between you and happiness . . . and what to do about it. 
Are you ready for your best Lent ever?

**What is Lent?** - A short but informative video from CRS.

Library Media Center January Check It Out newsletter-National Migration Week 
resources and new items added to the catalog-new DVDs and books!

---

### Upcoming Catechetical Events

**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.

**Forming Disciples with the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults**
Saturday, February 4th, 2017 I 8:30 am - 4:30 pm I Sacred Heart, Lacey I
The vision of the RCIA, Sorting the fish/Who belongs where?, Periods of the Process:
Inquiry, Catechumenate, Purification and Mystagogy, Special circumstances and 
canonical issues. For more information, click [here](#).

**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.

**Catholics Called to Accompaniment: An Immigration Summit (NEW)**
February 11, 2017 I 9:00 am - 4:00 pm I Seattle University, Student Center RM 160 I
Join other parishioners, service providers, and community leaders for a day of reflection, information, and connection. The day concludes with a mass with Bishop Eusebio Elizondo in the Chapel of St. Ignatius. Check-in begins at 8:30 am. For more information and to register, click [here](#).

**Liturgy As Source and Summit (NEW)**
February 11, 2017 I 9:00 am - 2:30 pm I St. Joseph Church, Seattle I The Ministry Enrichment Gathering® provides an opportunity for formation, prayer, and training for those involved in the Church's liturgical ministries. For more information, click [Ministry Enrichment Gathering®](#) or [Liturgy as Source and Summit](#) For complete information, view the flyer. To register, click [here](#).

**Springtime in Paris: Cabrini Ministry Training Annual Dinner & Auction**
Saturday, February 11, 2017 I 6:00 - 9:00 pm I Our Lady of the Lake Event Center, Seattle I Join us for an evening of dinner, drinks, bidding and fun! We'll have both a Silent and a Live Auction, Gift Baskets to win by Raffle, and the ever popular Dessert Dash. For more details and registration, click [here](#).

---

**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. **Registration dates: January 18 - February 4, 2017.** Learn more at Digital Discipleship's [event page](#).

**Retreat with Fr. Jacques Philippe on Personal Prayer Life and Deep Relationship with God (NEW)**
Saturday, February 11, 2017 I 9:00 am - 4:00 pm I St. Pius X Church, Mountlake Terrace
Please mark your calendars for this most important event. All are welcome to register, and don't forget to invite your friends and family. A free-will offering will be collected at the retreat. Lunch will also be offered to purchase at the retreat. Please [register](#) for the retreat to help us keep an accurate count. This way we can order lunches beforehand for you and the other retreatants. Another event on Monday, February 13th with Fr. Philippe-more details to come!  

**Los Angeles Religious Education Congress**
2017 DATES: February 23, 2017 (Youth Day) & February 24-26, 2017 I Theme: **“Embrace Trust”** I Held at the Anaheim Convention Center in Anaheim, California. [Register](#) today! To learn more, click [here](#).
Going Forth in Joy! Missionary Disciples Formation Program (NEW)
March 4th - 5th, 2017- Catholic ministers and educators play a special role in helping their communities experience the joy of participating in God's mission of love. We are called to lay the foundations that enable this mission to be passed on to the next generation. The Missions Office of the Archdiocese of Seattle and Maryknoll invite you to join us to engage with this call and challenge. For more information and to register, click here. Offered in English & Español

Junior High Rally: Souls On Fire
Saturday, March 11, 2017 I 8:00 am - 8:00 pm I Forest Ridge School, Bellevue I Junior High Rally is a day designed to celebrate Catholic youth (in grades 6-9) and all they bring to the Church. Over 600+ youth from Washington, Oregon and Canada will come together for an interactive day where you will have the opportunity to meet new people, listen to talks that will deepen their faith, and be invited to participate in various interactive activities with the day closing with Mass! Check here for more information.

Guatemala Immersion for Religious Educators (NEW)
June 14-22, 2017- Discover Christ in our Guatemalan sisters and brothers. Every day, these neighbors of ours from Central America make the perilous journey into the United States. Deepen your faith and enliven your ministry through encounter with their hopes, joys, and struggles. Meet and learn from the lay and religious missioners walking with them, and discern how you can invite your own community into a spirit of encounter with our sisters and brothers on the margins, in Guatemala and here in western Washington. Applications due March 1st! For complete information and to apply, click here.

A Parish Built to Last Retreat for Pastors and Faith Formation Directors
June 30-July 2, 2017 I Led by Fr. Bill Watson, SJ. I ABRC@Palisades, Federal Way I 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.

Mass & Celebration with our Community with Special Needs
Saturday, April 1, 2017 I Mass: 11:00 am I St. James Cathedral, Seattle I Reception and Spring Dance to follow Mass at O'Dea High School, Seattle. For more information, contact Erica Cohen Moore 206-382-4852 | ericac@seattlearch.org

Cornerstone Catholic Conference: Together for Life and Justice (NEW)
October 20-21, 2017 I Tacoma I Save the date!-More information and registration details will be available in the coming months.
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 (UPDATED!!)
Tuesday, February 14, 2016 | 9:30 am - 2:30 pm | St. Vincent de Paul Church, Federal Way | 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.

Divorce and Beyond (NEW)
Sunday, February 26, 2017 | 4:00 - 5:30 | St. Louise Church, Bellevue | An 8 week Catholic support series for anyone struggling with the pain of marital separation or divorce. Topics covered are self-esteem, stress, blame and guilt, anger, loneliness and pathways to growth. A $20 donation is asked to cover cost of book and materials, but scholarships are available for the asking. Pre-registration is required as space is limited. Please call Kathy Riley (425-214-5466) for further information or to register.

Beginning Experience Program (NEW)
Beginning Experience - Divorced, Widowed or Separated? If you are ready to deal with the grief of being widowed, divorced or separated, there is help. As a faith-based organization, Beginning Experience offers men and women the opportunity & skills to build deeper self respect, to cope with the pain of loss, and to move into the future with renewed hope. Join us for a weekend away for a lifetime of change - available twice a year, in April & October. This coming Spring's Puget Sound area weekend is Friday to Sunday, March 31 to April 2, 2017 at historic Carnation Farms in Carnation, WA. Please call Chris, our Beginning Experience Registrar, at (253) 223-2645 for more information and a brochure.

St James Cathedral, Seattle
Grief Support Group - meets Wednesdays, January 25-March 1, 2017. The grieving process has no timeline and is unique to each individual, but meeting with others who are going through a similar experience can provide support and help us cope. You are invited to join a new 6-week grief support group facilitated by St. James Cathedral Staff- Nancy Granger, Suzanne Lee, and Rosanne Michaels

St. John the Baptist, Covington
Grief Ministry - meets every 2nd Weds at 7 PM, providing compassionate and confidential support to parishioners and families who have suffered a loss. Various tools are provided that will help manage the grieving process, fostering hope through faith, prayer, and fellowship, with God's love and grace as our guide. Meetings are open to anyone in the Archdiocese. (Richard: 949.290.8670, Page: 253.569.5326, or Frank: 425.241.9190)

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.

---

**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 (Fourth Week of Ordinary Time):**

**Great Is Our Faithfulness: Why Celebrate Black History Month**
Deacon Al Turner, MTS, the former director of the Office of Black Catholics for the Archdiocese of Washington, writes about the significance of Black History Month for black Catholics and cites the examples of black people who distinguished themselves in secular society and in the Catholic Church in the United States.

**Hearing the Voice of the Poor**
Tom Dwyer, chair of the National Voice of the Poor Committee of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, writes about ways Catholics can work to heal divisions after a contentious national election year, by being a voice not just to the poor but to all who are feeling left out.

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

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

Featured Websites

V ENCUENTRO
What is the Goal of the V Encuentro? The main goal of the V Encuentro is to discern ways in which the Church in the United States can better respond to the Hispanic/Latino presence, and to strengthen the ways in which Hispanics/Latinos respond to the call to the New Evangelization as missionary disciples serving the entire Church.

To learn more, get parish resources and watch a video with a special message from Bishop Elizondo, check out the Archdiocese of Seattle's V National Encuentro of Hispanic/Latino Ministry page.

RE Congress 2017
RECongress is the largest annual gathering of its kind in the world. The four-day event is held at the Anaheim (Calif.) Convention Center and is sponsored by the Los Angeles Office of Religious Education. Begun in 1968 as an “institute” for religious education (CCD) teachers, RECongress has grown to include people of all vocations and different faiths.

Fashioning Faith
Fashioning Faith is a subscription website designed especially for parish catechetical leaders that provides access to hundreds of program, strategies, and resources for promoting faith formation.
with people of all ages. New features make Fashioning Faith even easier to use and new resources easy to find! This includes resources delivered each year that help to gather the whole community of faith, connect families to children's faith formation, and build faith in families at home.

Liturgy Training Publications

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
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, email 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.