

Archdiocese of Seattle Faith Formation Newsletter February 21, 2017

Dear Catechetical Colleagues,

Once again, we would like to remind you to check out the rich set of [resources](#) on Lent, which begins on March 1st. In particular, we recommend you take a look at ...

Lent is also the time we lift up both the [CRS Rice Bowl](#) and the [CRS Collection](#). You should have received information and materials in your parish by February 22nd, as the CRS collection takes place on March 25th and 26th. Their resources serve those in need across the globe, which is also related to our featured essential concept this week.



Our "Essential Concept" this week is the Human Community. Here are some [videos](#) you might find very helpful in your classroom. One aspect of Human Community is the ongoing ministry many of you are providing for **Touching Safety** of our youth. We would like to remind you that we have a webpage totally devoted to information and the lesson plans for this program at: www.seattlearchdiocese.org/SEP/FaithFormation

This link will offer you everything you will need to complete these classes and also who to contact if you have any questions.

The **Junior High Rally is March 11th**. For registration and other important details click [here](#).



April 1st is our **Annual Mass with the Special Needs Community** at St. James Cathedral. It will be followed with a dance at O'Dea and promises to be a great deal of inclusive celebration and fun!

Even though the **Annual PAFF Conference** isn't until **June 7th**, now is the time to mark your calendars for this great event, which will have a fun and formational keynote presenter and also offer you an opportunity to see all of the resources from our Religion Publishers. The event will be held in Isaac Orr this year, so do make a special note of this location. **More details will be coming in the next few weeks!**

As ever, we are grateful to be here for all of you. **Please let us know how we may continue to serve you!**

In Christ,

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Essential Religious Education Concepts

Human Community [1877-1948, 2204-2213]

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- Promoting Catholic Identity: A Commitment to Community (LINK)

Catholic Social Justice Teaching - Solidarity



[Call to Family, Community, and Participation](#)



CST 101 Call to Family,  Community, and Participation



[Laudato Si - CRS Elementary Animated Brief](#)

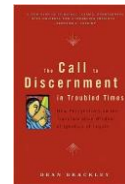


Resources from the LMC on The Human Community

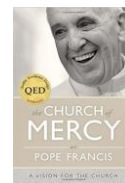
On Care For Our Common Home (Laudato Si) (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops) Pope Francis draws all Christians into a dialogue with every person on the planet about our common home. We as human beings are united by the concern for our planet, and every living thing that dwells on it, especially the poorest and most vulnerable. Pope Francis letter joins the body of the Church's social and moral teaching, draws on the best scientific research, providing the foundation for the ethical and spiritual itinerary that follows. Laudato Si outlines: The current state of our common home; The Gospel message as seen through creation; The human causes of the ecological crisis; Ecology and the common good; Pope Francis' call to action for each of us.



The Call to Discernment in Troubled Times: New Perspectives on the Transformative Wisdom of Ignatius of Loyola (Dean Brackley) A new kind of spiritual classic and a powerful reintroduction to Christianity, this hopeful book by esteemed pastor and teacher Fr. Dean Brackley integrates a realistic analysis of today's social crisis with the deep personal spirituality of St. Ignatius Loyola.



The Church of Mercy: A Vision for the Church (Pope Francis) Pope Francis has captured the world's attention with his seemingly counterintuitive approach to leadership. In "The Church of Mercy," readers get a first-hand look at Pope Francis's vision of the good news of Christian hope and mercy. Designed for a broad readership, "The Church of Mercy" is a compilation of essays, speeches, and homilies by Pope Francis since his election on being a church that exists among and for the people, solidarity with the poor, and the need to demolish the idols of power and money.



This Is What Solidarity Looks Like (DVD, Catholic Relief Services) The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) and Catholic Relief Services (CRS) call on one million Catholics in the United States to confront global poverty. Advocate with us to end hunger, disease, conflict, and other issues that affect the lives of our brothers and sisters worldwide. This short DVD explains and shows examples of how parishes can be effective in participating in this effort. Watch the video [here](#).

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

[25 Great Things You Can Do for Lent \(Besides Giving Up Chocolate\)](#) Challenge yourself this year, and go beyond the usual practice of "giving up" something. Now is a great time to take stock of your spiritual life and to grow in it. Not sure where to start?

[A Lenten Journey with ODB Films \(formerly Outside Da Box\)](#) Beginning Ash Wednesday, ODB invites you to participate in a unique Lenten experience. Encounter Christ during this 7-week journey through artfully made, spiritually rich short films, questions for personal reflection, and Scriptures for meditation.

[Helping Families Celebrate Lent](#) We spend hours planning activities and celebrations that we hope will impact the families we serve. The reality may be sobering. Sometimes we plan too much. Do families really care about the season of Lent, and all of its signs and symbols, all of its opportunity and potential? What can we do to help the families in our charge get the most out of this sacred time without overwhelming them with the choices?

[The Significance of Ash Wednesday](#) They may just be ashes, but Fr. Mike points out that what they represent goes far beyond mere dust of the earth. With a simple cross on the forehead, we are recognizing that we are far from perfect, but that God loves and redeems us-not despite our brokenness, but in the midst of it. If you want to start off your Lent with a reminder of Ash Wednesday's deeper meaning, listen to Fr. Mike's heartfelt words in this **video**.

[Ash Wednesday and Lent in Two Minutes](#) Always a great video to share each year, this brief video explains the what and why of Ash Wednesday and Lent, from the history of wearing ashes dating back to the Old Testament, to the practices of Catholics and Christians during Lent.

[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?

Library Media Center February **[Check It Out](#)** newsletter-***NEW LENT RESOURCES*** and 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.

David Haas in Concert

Friday, March 10, 2017 | 7:00 pm | St. Patrick Church, Seattle | Suggested Donation \$15 Per Person, \$30 Per Family | For more information and tickets, contact Sara Hanson, at Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church, shanson@ollseattle.org or Laura Ash, at St. Patrick Catholic Church, lauradavidash@aol.com. David Haas is highly regarded as one of the most prolific composers in liturgical music today. His songs, including "You Are Mine," "Blest Are They," and "We Are Called," appear in the hymnals of many Christian Denominations.

Retreat with David Haas

Saturday, March 11, 2017 | 9:00 am - 3:00 pm | Our Lady of the Lake Church, Seattle. *"That You Might Have Life: Spiritual Practices for the Call to Holiness"* To view the flyer, click [here](#).

Catholic Advocacy Day (NEW)

Thursday, March 16, 2017 | 9:00 - 3:00 | Olympia, WA. Meet us at [St. Michael Church](#) for our program and a legislative briefing before going to scheduled appointments with your legislators at the capitol. All parish members, staff, and Catholic organizations are invited to join us to ensure that the Gospel message to care for our neighbors is heard in Olympia. For more information and to register, click [here](#). *Please register by February 24th!*

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](#).

Los Angeles Religious Education Congress

2017 DATES: February 23, 2017 (Youth Day) & February 24-26, 2017 | Theme: **"Embrace Trust"** | Held at the Anaheim Convention Center in Anaheim, California. [Register](#) today! To learn more, click [here](#).

Catechist Formation Opportunity - Going Forth in Joy!

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 with the Missionary Disciples

Formation Program. For more information and to register, click [here](#). **Offered in English & Español**

Junior High Rally: Souls On Fire (NEW)

Saturday, March 11, 2017 | 8:00 am - 8:00 pm | Forest Ridge School, Bellevue | 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

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 missionaries 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 | 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](#).

Mass & Celebration with our Community with Special Needs

Saturday, April 1, 2017 | Mass: 11:00 am | St. James Cathedral, Seattle | 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 | Tacoma | [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.*



Healing Ministry for Divorced Catholics

Beginning Tuesday, March 7th, the parish will offer a 12 week DVD and discussion program called "*The Catholic's Divorce Survival Guide*". Many people find themselves stuck in pain and anger after the breakdown of their marriage, but the church is here to help. The group facilitator will guide you and others who are separated or divorced through the DVDs in a private, confidential group support environment. Contact Diane Boggs 360-823-2828, diane@stjoevan.org.

Divorce and Beyond

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.

St. Louise, Bellevue

Bereavement Support Ministry - Our mission is to support the grieving process after the death of a loved one. This is achieved with one-on-one contact and a monthly support group which includes prayer, sharing our stories and learning from one another. Meetings are on the **3rd Tuesday of each month at 7PM** in the Parish Center. Contact Kathy Riley at 425-4450-x5466 or Kathy@stlouis.org

Beginning Experience Program

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 (Seventh Week of Ordinary Time) Pro-Life Perspective-Accompanying Expectant Mothers Considering Adoption Drawing from the personal experience of a mother who placed her child for adoption, this article gives nine pointers for offering ongoing support to other expectant mothers considering adoption.

[English](#) [Spanish](#)

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.

NCCL-Catechetical Update



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

NCCL Family Faith Survey

The National Conference for Catechetical Leadership is conducting a short survey on family faith formation. We would like to encourage all of you to take a few minutes and complete this questionnaire. If you participate in the [survey](#), you will also receive an update on the final results! **Please complete the survey no later than March 1st.**

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 ENCUESTRO

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

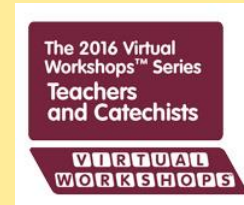


Fashioning Faith is a subscription website designed especially for parish catechetical leaders that provides access to hundreds of program, strategies, and resources for promoting faith formation with people of all ages. New features make Fashioning Faith even easier to use and new resources easy to 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.



Welcome the Needy-
February 2017

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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