

Archdiocese of Seattle Religious Education Newsletter August 31, 2015

Dear Catechetical Colleagues,

You are in our prayers as you begin a new season of faith formation. To assist you in your teaching ministries, we are delighted to be launching this newly reformatted newsletter that will be emailed to you each week. The newsletter will be a joint collaboration that incorporates the latest and best resources from our Library Media Center!

As you will see, the revised format will feature a new "Essential Concept" from our Archdiocesan Religious Education Standards each week. Related print, digital and online materials for each "Essential Concept" can also be found on the Library Media website at <http://www.seattlearchdiocese.org/Library/Newsletters>

Other new features will include information each week from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) and the National Conference of Catechetical Leadership (NCCL). Links to other faith formation ministry websites will also be included.

Please make special note of upcoming Archdiocesan catechetical events, including our New PAFF Orientation on September 8th and deanery workshops for implementing the Archdiocesan Elementary RE Standards. We are also encouraging our parish catechetical leaders to register for the Youth and Young Adult Ministry gathering on September 9th that will be focusing on family faith formation. Registration information for this event can be found in the sections below this letter.

Catechetical Sunday this year will be on September 20, 2015. Downloadable resources for celebrating this day in your parish, can be found at :
<http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/how-we-teach/catechesis/catechetical-sunday/>

Please keep in mind this is a great time of year to order copies of the Archdiocese of Seattle's Prayers By Heart: The Catholic Children's Prayer Book published by Saint Mary's Press. Ordering information and a brief description can be found in the newsletter.

As we move deeper into this school year, we will also be adding some other features to the newsletter, such as suggested lesson plans and activities related to the Archdiocesan RE Standards. We welcome any recommendations you might have for us as well!

In Christ,
Anne
Anne Frederick, Ed.D.
Director of Religious Education

Lisa
Lisa Hillyard
Library Media Center Manager

Upcoming Catechetical Events

Mass for the Special Needs Community

September 5th, 2015:

Archbishop Sartain invites us all to celebrate a Mass for our special needs community,

including families, friends and our faith communities on September 5th at St. James Cathedral. 10:00 Mass with reception to follow.

Witnesses of the Faith Mass and Reception

September 6th, 2015:

Archbishop Sartain will honor, recognize & bless Catholics who teach at local public and non-Catholic private schools, colleges & universities on September 6th at St. James Cathedral. 12:00 Mass with reception to follow. Click [here](#) for more information.

New Ministers Orientation (PAFF)

September 8th, 2015: 8:30 am - 3:30 pm Isaac Orr Conference Center, Chancery.
All new Pastoral Assistants for Faith Formation, Directors of Religious Education, and Parish Catechetical Leaders are encouraged to attend this unique day designed especially for those new to ministry and/or the Archdiocese of Seattle. For more information and [registration](#): 206-382-4096, ocff@seattlearch.org

Office for Youth and Young Adult Evangelization and Youth Ministry Leaders for the Annual Fall Gathering

September 9th, 2015: 9:30am-3:30pm at the Archbishop Brunett Retreat Center
Featuring Kathie Amidei is the guest speaker who will be sharing the Pathway to Engaging Families in Faith. For more information and registration:
Rachael.Becker@seattlearch.org

Religious Education Standards Deanery Workshops

September 14, 2015: Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church-Everett
September 19, 2015: St. Edward Church-Shelton
October 20, 2015: St. Rose De Viterbo Church-Longview
Contact [Joseph Tancioco](#) for information, registration, and scheduling a future workshop.



Essential Religious Education Concepts

Week One: Revelation [1-4, 26-197, 290-315, 323-354, 702]

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 1 - KNOWLEDGE OF THE FAITH - Students explore, profess, and reflect on our Catholic faith, which is the content of God's revelation found in Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition and lived out in the Creed and Church doctrine.

Implementation Ideas for the Classroom:

Annotated Bibliography from the LMC*-Revelation, Creation, Salvation History, Sacred Scripture.

**Please note the Library's Essential Concepts list is a working document, being updated on an ongoing basis.*

Online Resources

Divine Revelation Slideshare

A presentation on the Catholic understanding of Divine Revelation in Holy Scripture

and Sacred Tradition.

Resources from the LMC on Revelation

Books and DVDs related to Revelation, Creation, Salvation History and Sacred Scripture.



Library Media Center Resource of the Week

Check It Out Monthly Newsletter

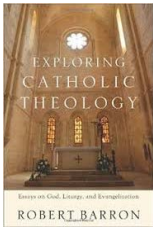
New Resources added over the summer including Marian Study Group Programs and a new book from Fr. Robert Barron.



Featured Book

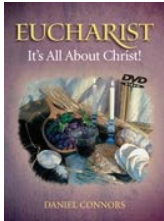
Exploring Catholic Theology: Essays on God, Liturgy, and Evangelization

Fr. Robert Barron, Baker Academic, 2015. In this volume, Barron sets forth a thoroughgoing vision for an evangelical Catholic theology that is steeped in the tradition and engaged with the contemporary world. Striking a balance between academic rigor and accessibility, the book covers issues of perennial interest in the twenty-first-century church: who God is, how to rightly worship him, and how his followers engage contemporary culture. Topics include the doctrine of God, Catholic theology, philosophy, liturgy, and evangelizing the culture.



Featured DVD

Eucharist: It's All about Christ (DVD) 23rd Publications, 2009. Three excellent resources for parish leaders, ministers, an RCIA teams, candidates, and catechumens on one DVD. In these presentations, viewers follow "Ellen Marshall" as she meets first "Eddie," then "Mark" as she, herself, becomes an RCIA candidate, and finally visits Ed's wife "Dorothy," all the while learning from them, and through them, three aspects of Eucharist in a parish. These can be viewed one at a time or all together in a parish setting or at home. Recommended viewing order: This Sacred Place (25 min.); This Sacred Meal (21 min.); This Sacred People (23 min.)



Featured Online Resource

A variety of prayers, blessings, and songs on the [Care For Creation](#) from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Archdiocesan News

NW Catholic Movie & Book Reviews

Check NW Catholic for the latest reviews on [books](#) and [movies](#).



Prayers By Heart: The Catholic Children's Prayer Book

Daily prayers, memorized by heart, are a wonderful way for children to stay close to God. Prayers by Heart: The Catholic Children's Prayer Book, only from Saint Mary's Press, was created to support the Archdiocese of Seattle's Faith Formation Standards and designed to introduce young children to the beautiful prayers of our Catholic faith. Incorporating these prayers and family blessings in their daily life-when they awake, when they eat, at Mass, or before they go to sleep, will help children learn to talk to and listen to God while being reminded of how He is always with them, and how much He loves and cares for them. Order copies [here](#)



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 (Twenty-Second Week of Ordinary Time):

Prayers for teachers and students on the start of the new school year and information on the Concluding Rites at Mass.

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

Catechetical Weekly-NCCL

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



Featured this week (Twenty-Second Week of Ordinary Time):

Caring for God's Creation-Resources for Liturgy, Preaching, and Taking Action. Plus "World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation" which will be celebrated on September 1st annually.

For archived newsletters and to learn more about this organization visit the [website](#).

Helpful Links

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.

Center for Ministry Development

The Center for Ministry Development provides training, resources and consultation for pastoral ministry and catechesis with youth, young adults, families, and the intergenerational community.

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.

The Religion Teacher

The Religion Teacher provides practical resources and teaching strategies to help religious educators transform the lives of the young people they teach. Find the practical resources, activities, lesson plans, prayers, and teaching strategies at The Religion Teacher to be great supplements to your catechetical work.

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.



The theme of the World Meeting of Families - Philadelphia 2015 is emphasizing the impact of the love and life of families on our society. September 22-25,2015

Stay Connected



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