

# Archdiocese of Seattle

## Religious Education Newsletter

### December 14, 2015

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**Dear Catechetical Colleagues,**

As we move into the **third week of Advent**, our **"Essential Concept" is the Liturgical Rites: Weddings; Funerals; and Blessings**. Did you know that the **Associated Catholic Cemeteries** for our Archdiocese offer us a wealth of information related to planning for the end of life, funerals and cremation? We have added links for the Catholic Cemeteries, their resources list and specific guidelines related to cremation in the "Essential Concepts" section below.

Please **check out the new Year of Mercy link on the Archdiocesan homepage for more resources and events for the Jubilee Year** that will continue to grow over the next several months! We also will continue to feature some of these resources in our weekly newsletter as well.

The final report of the Synod of Bishops on "The Vocation and Mission of the Family in the Church and in the Contemporary World" has just been released! You can access the document [here](#).

**Please also note, we have some new events to add to your calendar for 2016. These include a Faith Formation Presentation and Luncheon on March 15th, the PAFF Workshop and Retreat on April 28-29th, and our Annual PAFF Conference on June 1st.** More information about these events will be shared in upcoming newsletters, but please mark your calendars now!

You remain in our prayers and please let us know, how we might be of further service to all of you!

In Christ,

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## Upcoming Catechetical Events

### Religious Education Standards Deanery Workshops

January 26, 2016: 10:30-12 | Pierce Deanery | Visitation Church, Tacoma

March 9th, 2016: | St. Charles, Burlington (*Time: TBD*)

Contact [Joseph Tancioco](#) for information, registration, and scheduling a future workshop.

### Save the Date: Mass/March for Life

The annual Mass for Life and March for Life will be held on Tuesday, January 19, 2016. These events commemorate the U.S. Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade and Doe v. Bolton decisions in 1974 that legalized abortion throughout the country.

### Save the Date: Jubilee for People with Special Needs

Saturday, March 12, 2016 | 11:00 Archbishop Peter J. Sartain, Presider

### Save the Date: Faith Formation Presentation and Luncheon

Tuesday, March 15, 2016 | Chancery, Isaac Orr Conference Room | *More information to come*

### Save the Date: Best Practices for Catechetical Leaders

April 28-29, 2016 | ABRC @ Palisades | *More information to come*

### Save the Date: Annual PAFF Conference

June 1, 2016 | *More information to come*

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## **Formation Opportunities**

### Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Level 1 Formation Course

Presented by Joann Terranova, MAPS and Lynne Shioyama

January to November 2016 For more information, see [flyer](#) or contact Claudia Petursson at Holy Family Parish 452-822-0295, ext. 122 or [claudiap@hfkparish.org](mailto:claudiap@hfkparish.org)

### Holy Buckets - FREE Advent Resource

The Missionary Childhood Association (MCA) is a way to introduce Catholic youth to the Universality of our church. The MCA will help youth to understand that we belong to a world-wide church and that they are called to solidarity with youth around the world. The Holy Buckets program has undergone some changes and continues to animate young people in their missionary discipleship by learning, sharing and giving during the Season of Advent. The program launches the first week of Advent and closes on the Feast of the Epiphany (November 29, 2015 - January 6, 2016). download the FREE materials at

<http://www.onefamilyinmission.org/hca/hca-reproducibles.html> Please remit any funds collected by sending one check, payable to "Missions Office" with "Holy Buckets" in the memo line, to: Missions Office | 710 9th Ave | Seattle, WA | 98104.

Questions may be directed to your Missions Office:

[missions.office@seattlearch.org](mailto:missions.office@seattlearch.org) (206) 382-4580

### Missionary Childhood Association Christmas Artwork Contest

Twenty-four winners will be selected in the 2015-2016 [Missionary Childhood Association Christmas Artwork Contest](#); their artwork will appear as e-greetings

on the website (MCAKids.org) and displayed at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. during Advent 2016 and through the Christmas Season. The official entry form is at MCAKids.org and at OneFamilyInMission.org. Open to young Catholics in grades K-8 in schools or parish religious education programs. Deadline is Saturday, January 31, 2016.

### Multimedia Youth Contest "Caring For God's Creation" (Grades 7-12)

Annual Multimedia Youth Contest Creative work of any medium (e.g. video, song, painting, drama, poetry, etc.) is welcome! Entries within the Archdiocese of Seattle must be sent to the Missions Office by March 17, 2016.



## **Essential Religious Education Concepts**

### **Liturgical Rites: Weddings** [1621-1637]; **Funerals** [988-1029, 1680-1690]; **and Blessings** [1671-1673]

*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 communication with Him through active, full, and conscious participation in the Liturgical celebrations and Sacraments of the Church*

## **Implementation Ideas for the Classroom:**

### **Annotated Bibliography from the LMC\***

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

## **Online Resources**

### **Sunday Connection from Loyola Press**

Background and activities to better understand the upcoming Sunday's Scripture reading.

### **Catholic Cemeteries of the Archdiocese of Seattle Washington**

The Catholic Cemeteries of the Archdiocese of Seattle website has a wealth of information regarding funerals and burials. Catholic cemeteries are signs of hope that are places of prayer. They witness our faith in the Lord Jesus and the hope we share in his resurrection. Check the website for more information regarding cremation and other helpful resources.

### **Saying I Do: What Happens at a Catholic Wedding**

Join the Dominican Sisters of Peace in praying the Divine Office during Advent (Dominican Praise version). This video introduces the Divine Office



### **Rituals with Meaning, Rituals that Heal**

The beauty and richness of the Catholic funeral rites can be very comforting for a family suffering the loss of a loved one. The Order of Christian Funerals starts the bereavement process for family and friends and help them express their grief.



## Resources from the LMC on Liturgical Rites

***The Rites of the Catholic Church*** This study edition contains the following: Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, Baptism of Children, Reception of Baptized Christian, Confirmation, Penance, Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharist outside Mass, Marriage, Pastoral Care of the Sick: Rites of Anointing and Viaticum, and the Order of Christian Funerals.



***Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers*** Explore the rich treasury of the Catholic tradition of prayer. perfect gift or resource for families looking to deepen their prayer lives. Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers contains all the essential prayers that every Catholic should know but heart, while also containing blessings and prayers for the most important moments in life.

***Order of Christian Funerals*** The Order of Christian Funerals (with Cremation Rite) contains texts for The Vigil and related rites and prayers, the Funeral Liturgy, Rite of Committal, Funeral Rites for Children, as well as texts for Scripture Readings, the Office for the Dead, and additional texts. This liturgical book for Catholic funerals also includes the material from Appendix 2: Cremation (except for "Reflection"), approved and published in 1997.

***Prayers By Heart: The Catholic Children's Prayer Book*** Please find specific family blessings on pages 34-41.

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## Library Media Center Resources of the Week

### The Season of Advent

#### Waiting and Preparation: Teaching Advent and Christmas

Use the rich symbols and stories of the season to help children experience Advent and lead them to a better celebration of Jesus' coming at Christmas. From Joe Paprocki's Catechist's Journey.

#### You Don't Know Jack... about Advent

Christmas is coming and Busted Halo longtime friend Fr. Jack Collins, CSP, hits the streets (and the local ice skating rink) to ask people what they know about that anticipatory season of waiting and preparation... Advent.



#### Arts and Faith: Third Sunday of Advent, Cycle C

**Arts and Faith** invites you to take a deeper look at the Advent Gospels through artwork. Domenico Ghirlandaio's fresco of John the Baptist preaching is one of a series he created for the Tornabuoni Chapel of Florence's Santa Maria Novella Church. In this scene, we meet John the Baptist preaching to the crowds, standing on a rock and holding a cross staff with one hand, while instructing with his other.



**NCEA Video Resource: What is Advent?**

This NCEA Video Resource provides your students with an overview of the Advent Season and the meaning behind several significant traditions involved in this liturgical celebration. The video also provides an introduction into the liturgical celebrations of The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) and Lent.



***People of the Nativity: Living the Christmas Story Then and Now*** (Marci Alborghetti) The people of the original Advent become powerfully and often triumphantly real as they respond to God's plan. Meet Anna, Joseph, Mary and others in this true-to-the-Scripture narrative, which includes thoughtful questions, prayers and suggested actions that resonate with the reader's own experiences.

***Light for the World*** (Tom Wall) Aquinas Ventures, LLC, 2015. This Advent, help your entire family prepare for the birth of Jesus with *Light for the World: A Catholic Kid's Guide for Advent and Christmas*. Written and illustrated for your entire family, this softcover book explains Catholic traditions and feast days that we celebrate throughout the seasons of Advent and Christmas. *Light for the World* is just what your family needs to truly know and appreciate the "Reason for the Season".

***The Advent Jesse Tree: Devotions for Children and Adults to Prepare for the Coming of the Christ Child at Christmas*** Offers 25 devotions for each day from December 1st to December 25th, Christmas Day... The day Christians celebrate that God's purpose was finally revealed in the coming of the savior, Jesus Christ. Each devotion traces the heritage of Jesus through the stories and prophecies of the Old Testament. This book enables individuals and families to engage in a more meaningful celebration of the Christmas season. These daily Advent devotions are written in two versions (one for children and one for adults) including a scripture, a story and commentary, questions to ask, a prayer, and a song.

***Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany in the Domestic Church: Activities to Celebrate the Liturgical Season*** (Catherine Fournier) This illustrated book is full of wonderful family activities to help parents and children alike better understand and celebrate the Advent, Christmas and Epiphany seasons. The perfect book to help families learn together and share the joys of this happy time of the liturgical year. Filled with a variety of family activities, saints' celebrations and crafts, this book has something for everyone in the family. Family activities include making an Advent wreath, a Jesse Tree with all its symbols, cloth Nativity figures, words for singing 21 Advent and Christmas songs, recipes for special cakes and breads and more. Also included are stories of special saints for the season with activities and prayers.

## Jubilee Year of Mercy

Pope Francis has called the special [Jubilee Year for Mercy](#) to begin Dec. 8, the feast of the Immaculate Conception and the 50th anniversary of the closing of the Second Vatican Council. It will close on Nov. 20, 2016, the day celebrated that year as the feast of Christ the King.

### [Brief History of Holy Years and Jubilees in the Church](#)

by Fr. Thomas Rosica-Salt & Light blog.

### Archdiocesan Webpage for The Year of Mercy

It is up and [now available!](#) Please take a look at all of the resources and current information found dedicated to the Year of Mercy. Be sure to check back often for added events and resources.

### Library Media Center Year of Mercy Resources

Here is a printable annotated [bibliography](#) of resources available from the Library Media Center. Materials may be added to the list, so check back for new titles.

### Rediscover Mercy from Dynamic Catholic

"Forgive Offences Willingly" Knowing that forgiveness is a process and not just an event reveals why it is so difficult to forgive. We want it to be over and done with in a single moment, but in reality it takes a serious emotional and spiritual commitment. While difficult, there are few skills more important in life than forgiveness. There isn't a person on the planet that hasn't needed to give forgiveness. To help us forgive, Father Mike Schmidt delivers two incredibly simple but transformative truths about forgiveness. Watch this [short video](#) to learn more.

### CRS Year of Mercy Resources

Catholic Relief Services (CRS) has developed a number of resources that illustrate how Catholics in the United States can participate in acts of mercy through CRS. Click [here](#) for details.

### Advent Moments of Mercy from Loyola Press

[Advent Moments of Mercy](#) Jim Campbell writes daily messages to help us explore the Scripture and feast days of Advent, especially paying attention to themes of mercy and incorporating the words of Pope Francis each day. Sign up to receive the daily messages via e-mail from the First Sunday of Advent through Christmas Day.

### Archdiocese of Seattle Year of Mercy Prayer Card

Here is a [printable prayer card](#) for use in your parish. The prayer card can be printed out using Avery 8387 labels.

### Year of Mercy App

Our Sunday Visitor's FREE [365 Days to Mercy app](#), is designed to accompany you on a spiritual journey during the Jubilee Year of Mercy proclaimed by Pope Francis.

### St. James Cathedral Tours

St. James Cathedral is inviting both parishes and school groups to set up visits for the Year of Mercy, which can be just a time of prayer and pilgrimage, or can include a guided tour as well. Corinna Laughlin [claughlin@stjames-cathedral.org](mailto:claughlin@stjames-cathedral.org) or 206-264-2086

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## Archdiocesan News

### NW Catholic Movie & Book Reviews

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

### Archbishop Brunett Retreat Center at the Palisades

The Archbishop Brunett Retreat Center at the Palisades provides guest rooms and exceptional meeting facilities in a beautifully secluded but convenient setting for retreats, spiritual growth and professional formation. For more information or to view the upcoming retreats scheduled, visit the Retreat Center [website](#).



### 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 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](#)

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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 (Third Week of Advent):*** Lectio Divina for the Third Week of Advent For Advent and the Jubilee Year of Mercy, we offer Lectio Divina guides for each week of Advent for personal or group use. [English](#) or [Spanish](#)

**Prayer: There Is a Light in This World:** This lovely prayer from Catholic Relief Services reminds us that Christ will soon bring light to the world and calls on each of us to be that light for others.



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

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## Catechetical Weekly-NCCL

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

**Featured This Week (Third Week of Advent):** 50th Anniversary of Nostre Aetate; Vatican Launches New Document on Christian-Jewish Dialogue [Nostra Aetate](#). Walking Together On the Road To Peace : Click Here For Full Playlist of USCCB Videos on Inter-faith Dialogue.

Scarboro Mission Society offers various resources on interfaith dialogue. [Principles and Guidelines for Interfaith Dialogue](#)

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

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## Featured Websites

### Elements of the Catholic Mass Weekly Video Series

Elements of the Catholic Mass is designed to help the faithful better appreciate the beauty of the Mass. Featuring experts from the **Liturgical Institute**, the program consists of beautifully produced weekly short videos of 2-5 minutes. These free videos will be available online and on demand. Because they will be released with a discussion guide with references, they are ideal for personal faith formation or group discussion. To see a listing of all available episodes, visit the "Episodes" page of the Liturgical Institute's [website](#).



The **World Meeting of Families** website has a new section where [Select Congress Keynote Presentation and Breakout Session Videos](#) can be viewed for free. More videos are planned to be added so check back frequently for new content.

### Los Angeles Religion Education Congress

February 25, 2016 (Youth Day) & February 26-28, 2016

Theme: "Boundless Mercy" | "Misericordia Inagotable"

Anaheim Convention Center in Anaheim, California

<http://www.recongress.org/>



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## Catholic Publishers

[Loyola Press](#)

[st. Mary's Press](#)

[Our Sunday Visitor](#)

[Ave Maria Press](#)

[Sadlier](#)

[Ascension Press](#)

[RCL Benziger](#)

[Lighthouse Catholic Media](#)

[Ignatius Press](#)

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## Helpful Links

### [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

### [Garaventa Center](#)

The Garaventa Center from the University of Portland explores and deploys the fruits of faith, reason and imagination that constitute the Catholic intellectual tradition to illuminate and enliven something that is implicit but often unregarded: the working of grace in human communities. Weekly podcasts are available by visiting the website or subscribing to their weekly newsletter.

### [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.

### [NACFLAM-National Association of Catholic Family Life Ministries](#)

In response to God's word revealed through all generations and impelled by our belief in the intrinsic sacredness of family life we, the members of the National Association of Catholic Family Life Ministers, join together to be a prophetic voice for family in Church and society, to foster professional development, and to provide mutual support for those who minister with families.

### [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.

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### Stay Connected



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