

Archdiocese of Seattle

Religious Education Newsletter

January 11, 2016

Dear Catechetical Colleagues,

Happy New Year! We hope that all of you are at the beginning of a grace-filled 2016! We are looking forward to several events planned over the next few months, **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!

Our "Essential Concept" this week is **Made in the Image of God - Foundation of Human Dignity**. As you are aware, this concept is foundational to our understanding of Catholic morality. It also offers us a great opportunity to focus on the importance of protecting all of God's children.

With the transition to VIRTUS in the Safe Environment Office, we will be required and audited on a new curriculum that we will be implementing in all Faith Formation programs. Effective September 2016, every parish and school Faith Formation program will be required to teach the Touching Safety program created by VIRTUS. We have worked with the Safe Environment Office to incorporate this curriculum into our Archdiocesan Religious Education Standards.

The job of ensuring children's safety is a challenging undertaking. The prevention of child sexual abuse requires more than adult awareness, education, and training about the nature and scope of the problem. **As you are aware, it is important we provide our children with the resources they need to overcome the advances of someone who intends to do them harm.** The Touching Safety program is a tool designed to assist parents and teachers in this important task. Each year, the program provides a theme that introduces and builds on the basic concepts of the Touching Safety program. The material is developmentally appropriate for each age group and includes content and activities that reinforce the message. Our offices will be in contact with you in the coming months in regards to how catechists will be implementing this. **We will also be offering additional information on implementation methods during our PAFF Workshop to be held at the Archbishop Brunett Retreat Center on April 28-29, 2016.**

Please **continue to 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.

In Christ,
Anne

Anne Frederick, Ed.D.

Director of Religious Education anne.frederick@seattlearch.org

Lisa

Lisa Hillyard

Library Media Center Manager lisa.hillyard@seattlearch.org

Upcoming Catechetical Events

Religious Education Standards Deanery Workshops

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

February 13, 2016: 10:00-3 | South Sound Deanery | St. Edward, Shelton

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

Contact [Joseph Tancioco](mailto:Joseph.Tancioco@seattlearch.org) for information, registration, and scheduling a future workshop.

Mass/March for Life

The annual Mass for Life and March for Life will be held on Tuesday, January 19, 2016. 9:30 am | Marcus Pavilion, St. Martin's University, Lacey. 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.

Catholic Advocacy Day 2016

Monday, February 8, 2016 | 9:00 am to 3:00 pm | Olympia, WA. For more information and registration, visit the ipjc.org website or email

CatholicAdvocacyDay2016@ipjc.org. Registration ends January 18th.

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 | For the Newly-Revised Parish Elementary Religion Standards | *More information to come*

Save the Date: Annual PAFF Conference

June 1, 2016 | *More information to come*

Formation Opportunities

Luke: the Gospel for Saints & Sinners

Thursdays, January 14--February 4 - 7:00 pm. I St. Anne House of Prayer I 1305 First Avenue W., Seattle (near the top of Queen Anne Hill). A four-week study of the Gospel that challenges us to build a church as inclusive as Jesus with Ron Ryan, D.Min. There is no fee or registration for this event. For more information, please contact the St. Anne Parish Office at 206-282-0223.

Mindful Eating as a Spiritual Practice

Saturday, January 23 - 9:00 am - 3:00 pm I St. Anne House of Prayer I 1305 First Avenue W., Seattle (near the top of Queen Anne Hill). Savor, enjoy and be mindful of your own wisdom around spiritual and physical fullness and abundance with Carol Spangler, MS, MPH and Jane Fleming, MPM. Registration \$50. For more information, please contact the St. Anne Parish Office at 206-282-0223.

"Have a Heart: Be an Angel" Auction Dinner for Cabrini Ministry Training

Saturday, Jan. 30, 2016 I 6:30 pm. Our Lady of the Lake Parish in NE Seattle. Join us for food, fun and drinks as we raise funds to support the ANGELS in our midst who offer compassionate pastoral care to those in need. Tickets are \$50/person. Reservations can be made at www.cabriniministry.org.

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

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

Made in the Image of God-Foundation of Human Dignity [355-368, 1004, 1700-1876]

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:

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

Images of God: Reflections on Christian Anthropology

Morality The most basic principle of the Christian moral life is the awareness that every person bears the dignity of being made in the image of God.

Life and Dignity of the Human Person

CST 101 is a collaborative 7-part video series presented by the USCCB and Catholic Relief Services on Catholic Social Teaching. Learn from Bishop Robert Barron, Jonathan Reyes, and Helen Alvaré as they discuss the dignity of the human person and our right to life.



Bishop Robert Barron: Living as the Image of God: Created for Joy and Love

This talk is an exploration of the extravagant biblical claim that human beings have been made in the image and likeness of God. Our likeness to God is revealed in our intelligence, our hunger for the good, our creativity, our freedom, and, above all, in our capacity for relationship. In living for the other, in giving ourselves away in love, we most resemble God, who is love.



Psalm 139 (Wonderfully Made)

Psalm 139 (Wonderfully Made) by Danielle Rose Skorich from her latest album, "Pursue Me", with facts about unborn children.



Resources from the LMC on Made in the Image of God-Foundation of Human Dignity

Life in a Flash: Teaching Respect for Life One Card at a Time (Flash Cards) Healing the Culture. Do the ends justify the means? Can a terminally ill person with only weeks to live have a high quality of life? Can science prove the fetus is a person? How can we tell the difference between truth and opinion? Are some human beings worth less than



others? Does human value depend on how developed we are? Where do human rights come from? Is physician-assisted suicide just a personal choice? Is abortion justifiable if a child will be born with a disability? Can a fetus be a baby if you want it to be, and not a baby if you don't? An engaging way to learn essential principles that uphold human dignity, contribute to personal growth, and build a culture of life. Flash cards on happiness, ethics, logic, and justice. Instructions included for small study groups and families.

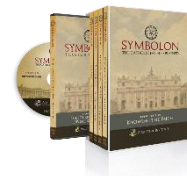
Christian Moral Life: A Primary Source Reader (Ann Nunes) Christian morality is synonymous with life in Christ. We are to love God with our whole being and to love others as Jesus loves us, because God created all of us in his image and wants us to love one another as he loves us. The Christian moral life is defined by being in loving relationships and by living our lives in response to the teachings of Jesus. The collection of readings in *Christian Moral Life A Primary Source Reader* aims to help you learn the moral concepts and teachings that guide us to live our lives as disciples of Christ.



Practice Makes Catholic: Moving from a Learned Faith to a Lived Faith (Joe Paprocki) Addresses the all-important "why" of many Catholic practices by articulating five key characteristics that form our Catholic identity: a sense of sacramentality, a commitment to community, *a respect for the dignity of human life and commitment to justice*, a reverence for Tradition, and a disposition to faith and hope rather than despair. Under each of these categories, he explores and explains multiple Catholic practices, then describes how following each one can make a profound difference in our faith and in our lives.

Living in the Image and Likeness of God (DVD-Ron Rolheiser) A three-part journey through the scriptures, Gospels and the writings of theologians and scholars to describe the "Struggles inherent in our Blessedness." Fr. Rolheiser shows us our naïveté regarding the power of this Blessedness, how it can also be a source of perpetual disquiet and restlessness, and finally, how to live with the "Divine Fire" inside of us.

Symbolon: The Catholic Faith Explained & Living the Faith (DVD) Symbolon is a vibrant, relevant and complete program to re-evangelize and reinvigorate your parish. The 20 compelling sessions of this bold series guide parishioners through the breadth and richness of their Catholic faith. Presented by some of the most trusted Catholic teachers in the world, this unique video and discussion experience will transform the lives of your parishioners. *Episode 20-Protecting the Dignity of the Human Person*.



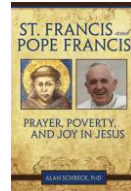
Library Media Center Resources of the Week

January Check It Out Newsletter

Take a look at some of the new DVD programs for study groups recently added to the catalog. Materials are available for preview and can be reserved up to a year in advance.

Poverty Awareness Month - During January, join the U.S. Bishops, the Catholic Campaign for Human Development and the Catholic Community in the United States in taking up Pope Francis' challenge to live in [solidarity with the poor](#)!

St. Francis and Pope Francis: Prayer, Poverty, and Joy in Jesus (Alan Schreck) Alan Schreck considers the times and messages of both St. Francis of Assisi and Pope Francis, and invites you to experience the same freedom and joy that they have found in Jesus. St. Francis and Pope Francis brings together themes that are central to the mission of both of these men:



Conversion - their stories are different but their message the same: turn to God, Prayer - union with Jesus is for everyone, Poverty - the imitation of Christ heals and restores, Church - faithfulness is the foundation for renewal, Mission - the same in every age: share the Gospel, Joy - the hallmark of Catholic life, and possible for us today. Two men separated by 800 years. One vision.

A Place at the Table (DVD-Home Entertainment) 50 million people in the U.S. - one in four children - don't know where their next meal is coming from, despite our having the means to provide nutritious, affordable food for all Americans. Directors Kristi Jacobson and Lori Silverbush examine this issue through the lens of three people who are struggling with food insecurity: Barbie, a single Philadelphia mother who grew up in poverty and is trying to provide a better life for her two kids; Rosie, a Colorado fifth-grader who often has to depend on friends and neighbors to feed her and has trouble concentrating in school; and Tremonica, a Mississippi second-grader whose asthma and health issues are exacerbated by the largely empty calories her hardworking mother can afford.

Maddi's Fridge (Lois Brandt) With humor and warmth, this children's picture book raises awareness about poverty and hunger. Best friends Sofia and Maddi live in the same neighborhood, go to the same school, and play in the same park, but while Sofia's fridge at home is full of nutritious food, the fridge at Maddi's house is empty. Sofia learns that Maddi's family doesn't have enough money to fill their fridge and promises Maddi she'll keep this discovery a secret. Filled with colorful artwork, this storybook addresses issues of poverty with honesty and sensitivity while instilling important lessons in friendship, empathy, trust, and helping others. A call to action section, with six effective ways for children to help fight hunger and information on anti-hunger groups, is also included.

One Hen: How One Small Loan Made a Big Difference (Katie Smith Milway) Based on a true story, tells of how a poor Ghanaian boy buys a chicken through a community loan program, which eventually helps lift him, his mother, and his community out of poverty.

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.

Day of Mercy-Confessions at St. James Cathedral

Saturday, March 5, 2016 | St. James Cathedral | One of the high points of the Year of Mercy is the Day of Mercy, when Archbishop Sartain, Bishop Elizondo, and priests from across the Archdiocese hear confessions throughout the day at St. James Cathedral. All are encouraged to participate in this celebration of the Sacrament of Mercy in the Year of Mercy.

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

The Year of Mercy is an invitation-an invitation to love, kindness, and unbounded generosity. Pope Francis is offering you the opportunity to encounter the incredible mercy of God. Encountering mercy means encountering God. It can transform your life, your relationships, your work, and your ability to embrace and experience all of life. Learn more about the Year of Mercy from **Dynamic Catholic**

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 or 206-264-2086

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 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 (First Week of Ordinary Time): [9 Days for Life Novena](#)-This resource provides prayers, reflections and suggestions for acts of reparation during the 9 Days for Life---a special period of prayer, penance, and pilgrimage from January 16-24---to unite us in the days surrounding the anniversary of Roe v. Wade, the Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion throughout pregnancy

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 (First Week of Ordinary Time): January - a good time to revisit your professional reading! A good place to start: read the NCCL Evangelization Committee's first of twelve contemporary reflections by catechetical leaders responding to and updating themes from the NCCL [Evangelizing Catechesis](#) series, originally published in 2000.

Visit the committee's website to download and read both the original article by Fr. John Hurley and Joe Paprocki's updated reflection on EVANGELIZATION AND THE CATECHIST.

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

Featured Websites

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. Beginning January 6th, 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.



Liturgy Training Publications

[Virtual Training Opportunities for Teachers and Catechists \(2016\)](#)

Designed specifically for teachers and catechists, this series invites all those who work with children to engage in formation and training throughout the year.

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](#).



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

[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.

Stay Connected



Archdiocese of Seattle
710 9th Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104
Office of Catholic Faith Formation
206-382-4096/ocff@seattlearch.org
Library Media Center
206-382-4883/library@seattlearch.org