

Archdiocese of Seattle

Religious Education Newsletter

February 1, 2016

Dear Catechetical Colleagues,

Ash Wednesday is February 10th. As we enter this time of Lent, we would like to focus this week's newsletter on the rich variety of events and resources the Archdiocese is supporting for the Year of Mercy.

Did you know that...

- **The Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy will be visiting seven parishes across our Archdiocese from February 13th-20th?** They will be coming with **first-class relics of St. Faustina and St. John Paul II for veneration, talks on mercy, and time for prayer.**
- **St. James Cathedral** is hosting a series of Year of Mercy Jubilee events? Participate in the **Day of Mercy**. There will be four priests offering the **sacrament of Reconciliation on Saturday, March 5th from 9 am to 5 pm.**
- People throughout Western Washington are invited to participate in **pilgrimages** at St. James Cathedral, the Proto-Cathedral of St. James the Greater in Vancouver, St. Joseph in Chehalis, Immaculate Conception in Mount Vernon, and Holy Rosary in Tacoma?
- **The Archdiocesan website** <http://www.seattlearchdiocese.org/Mercy> has a link specifically devoted to information and resources on the Year of Mercy?
- **The Library Media Center** has collected a wide variety of materials to assist your parish in offering programs on the Year of Mercy?
- There are **resources** to help you incorporate the Year of Mercy in the **classroom?**
- There is a list of movie clips you can access for teaching others about mercy? (see page 19 of this attached file)
stfrancisdesales.org/YearofMercy.pdf Also, Sr. Rose Pacatte offers up some great movie suggestions where the topic of mercy is highlighted in her blog found on Patheos.com
- ***Participating in the Corporal Works of Mercy can be as simple as:***

Providing a meal for a family who is ill or grieving?

Donating baby formula to Prepares ministry?

Cleaning your closet and taking gently used clothing to St Vincent de Paul?

Sending Bibles or other spiritual reading material to a local jail or prison?

Offering manual labor or providing resources to a local homeless shelter?

Visiting a sick or homebound member of your parish?

Supplying a dish for a funeral luncheon?

- **The Jubilee Year of Mercy offers an awesome evangelization opportunity?**
People everywhere, whether or not they are Catholic, are enthusiastic about Pope Francis and his message of **"...the love of God, who consoles, pardons, and instills hope."**

In Christ,

Anne

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Upcoming Catechetical Events

Religious Education Standards Deanery Workshops

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

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

Contact the [Office of Catholic Faith Formation](#) for information, registration, and scheduling a future workshop.

Liturgy Workshop Opportunities

Spread the word about these liturgical workshops, events and formation opportunities from the Liturgy Office. Please see [attachments](#) from more information.

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.

Bereavement/Grief Support Ministry Meeting

Tuesday, February 16, 2016 | 9:00 am to 3:00 pm | St. Vincent de Paul Church, Federal

Way | Please contact the [Office of Catholic Faith Formation](#) to register or for more information.

Save the Date: Jubilee for People with Special Needs

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

See [flyer](#) for more information

Faith Formation Presentation and Luncheon

Tuesday, March 15, 2016 | Chancery, Isaac Orr Conference Room | 9:30 am -1:00 pm
Speaker: Ann Garrido | [Redeeming Administration: Spirituality for Spiritual Leaders](#) | RSVP to ocff@seattlearch.org or 206-382-4096 by Tuesday, March 8th

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

Wednesday, June 1, 2016 | ABRC @ Palisades | Joe Paprocki: [A Church on The Move: Getting Mission and Mercy in Motion](#) | 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Formation Opportunities

CRS Rice Bowl Webinar: Lent & the Environment

Monday, February 1, 2016 | 11 AM PST. The presentation will be about 20 minutes long, with time for Q & A. For Youth and Young Adult Ministers, come to learn and discuss ways to integrate Pope Francis' encyclical, *Laudato Si'*, into your community's Lenten practice. The webinar will also highlight a few CRS Rice Bowl resources that can be particularly helpful in this regard. To join the webinar, simply click on this link:

<https://crsmeetings.adobeconnect.com/crsricebowl/>

The webinar will be recorded and available at crsricebowl.org/diocese shortly after the presentation.

Enjoying the Fruit of Your Ministry-Retreat for Lay Ecclesial Ministers

Friday, February 19th, 2016 | 9:00 am - 3:00 pm | St. Anne House of Prayer | 1305 First Avenue W., Seattle (near the top of Queen Anne Hill). Facilitated by Ron Ryan & Charlene Collora. Enjoy a quiet, supportive, confidential environment to rekindle your faith in God, in yourself, and in your work. Registration: \$50-includes refreshments and lunch. For more information, please contact the [St. Anne Parish Office](#) at 206-282-0223.

"Listening Heart" Ministry Training in Spanish

Cabrini Ministry Training will be offering their "Listening Heart" program in Spanish this February: Saturdays from 1-3pm at St. Andrew's in Sumner and Sundays from 2-4pm at St. Mary's in Seattle. Classes are scheduled to begin the weekend of February 13/14 and the registration deadline is February 9. Registration forms are available in your parish office. For more information, contact olaf@stmarysseattle.org (206-324-7100 x 13) or olaf@standrewsumner.org (253-863-3220).

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

Grades 7-12: Educational Contest Using Catholic Social Teaching

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) [Multimedia Youth Contest](#) is a tool to engage young people in grades 7-12 in learning about poverty in the U.S., its root causes, and faith-inspired efforts to address poverty. This year's theme is "Care for God's Creation." By encouraging young people [to stand in solidarity](#) with those who live in poverty, we remember that we are our brothers' and sisters' keepers. Contest's local deadline: March 17, 2016. Entries to be sent to the [Missions Office](#), where one can get resources and other assistance with the contest.



The Year of Mercy and Related Resources

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-Links and Videos

[The Corporal Works of Mercy: Living them out in Your Daily Life](#)

The Corporal Works of Mercy are found in the teachings of Jesus and give us a model for how we should treat all others, as if they were Christ in disguise. They "are charitable actions by which we help our neighbors in their bodily needs" (USCCA). They respond to the basic needs of humanity as we journey together through this life.

[56 Ways to be Merciful During the Jubilee Year of Mercy](#) God, who is merciful, desires our mercy. Here are 56 ways to keep to mercy during the Jubilee Year. Try randomly selecting one each week and putting it into practice.

[The Seven Corporal Works of Mercy: Ask Yourself](#)

[What Can I Do?](#) Video with images and provides examples of how one can act on each of the Corporal Works of Mercy.



[Divine Mercy: A Look At Saint Faustina](#)

A reflection on Divine Mercy and the life of Saint. Faustina Kowalska. Saint Faustina received from our Lord a message of divine mercy that she was to spread throughout the world. "Paint an image according to the pattern you see with the signature. "Jesus I trust in You."



[What is A Pilgrimage?](#)

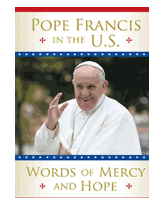
A brief video highlighting what can be experienced on a pilgrimage.



Resources from the LMC on Works of Mercy/Jubilee Year of Mercy

The Name of God is Mercy: A Conversation with Andrea Tornielli (Pope Francis) Randon House, 2015. In a conversation with Vatican expert Andrea Tornielli, Pope Francis discloses the core of his papacy and, in his own words, conveys the great message of the Holy Year of Mercy. Pope Francis addresses each woman and each man on Earth in a deep, simple and intimate dialogue. Through his own experience as a priest and shepherd, the pope talks about Mercy, a subject of central importance in his teaching and testimony. He explains the reasons for this extraordinary Holy Year, and in doing so he speaks to all the souls - inside and outside the Church - who are looking for a meaning in life, for a road to peace and reconciliation, for a healing to their physical and spiritual wounds. It is the summing up of his teachings and papacy.

Pope Francis in the U.S.: Words of Mercy and Hope (Marianne Lorraine Trouve, FSP.) The visit of Pope Francis to the United States was a time of grace. Whether he spoke to an individual or a crowd of thousands, he showed us how to reach out to others with God's love and mercy, especially during the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy. Now those who wish to savor the most soul-stirring aspects of the Pope's journey can do so with this prayerfully crafted collection. Arranged by topic, these excerpts from Pope Francis' talks will help all believers reflect on his words and be moved to do what they can to make the Gospel and the works of mercy a strong force in their own daily lives.



Blessed Are the Merciful: Stations to Celebrate the Way of God's Mercy (David Haas) Clear Faith Publishing, 2015. Pause during this Jubilee Year of Mercy and make a spiritual pilgrimage of prayer and reflection to contemplate the mystery of God's healing mercy in these new Stations of the Cross. Over and over we encounter in these Stations of Mercy a gracious God whose presence is more powerful than our weakness. The theme of God's mercy weaves through our faith tradition. God never tires of drawing us into this gift of mercy spilled out and overflowing. Blessed Are the Merciful adeptly and creatively gathers a collection of songs, scriptural passages, psalms and meditation which celebrate and remind us that we are steeped over and over again in God's extravagant and tender mercy which is freely offered, freely given.

Ocean of Mercy: Three Lives, One Vision, No Limits (DVD) Ignatius Press, 2013. Filmed on location in more than 20 cities across Poland and the United States, it examines and chronicles the message of Divine Mercy in the lives and spiritual legacy of Saint Faustina Kowalksa, Saint Maximilian Kolbe, and Blessed John Paul II. Included are never before seen film footage, rare photographs, and extensive interviews with their friends, biographers, and family members.

Library Media Center Resources

The Season of Lent

Lenten Morning Prayer- A [worship aid](#) prepared by the Liturgy Office which could be used for a classroom or all school celebration of Morning Prayer on any weekday of Lent. "Side A" and "Side B" may be designated as either "Boys" and "Girls"/"Men" and "Women" as you deem appropriate. Feedback or questions contact the [Liturgy Office](#)

Lenten Moments of Mercy - Lent presents a wonderful time to reflect on themes of mercy, and Lenten Moments of Mercy aims to help. This daily e-mail series delivers fresh reflections based on the Scriptures of Lent, sharing the inspiring words of Pope Francis and suggesting Lenten actions and prayers. In this Jubilee Year of Mercy, take time each day for [Lenten Moments of Mercy](#) and prepare your heart for a new appreciation of the journey to Easter. Sign up to receive the daily messages via e-mail from Ash Wednesday through Easter Sunday. Begins February 10th-Loyola Press.

Best Lent Ever Dynamic Catholic's free Best Lent Ever email program will take you on a 40-day spiritual journey to encounter Jesus-and yourself-in a deeply personal way, and begin (or nourish) a habit of daily prayer. [Sign up](#) to receive daily inspirational emails during Lent

CRS Rice Bowl The season of Lent is a time to pray, fast and give alms as we reflect on how Christ calls us to return to him. [CRS Rice Bowl](#), a Lenten faith formation program from Catholic Relief Services, offers resources that can help people of all ages, families and communities participate in these Lenten practices and deepen their faith. [Spanish version](#)

Check It Out Newsletter-Lenten Resources available from the Library Media Center

Threshold Bible Study for Lent (23rd Publications)

People of the Passion Suffering seems to bring out the best and worst in our human nature. Some people are overcome with hopelessness that leads to despair; others are filled with courage that leads to heroism. The people of the passion in this book are the characters who participated in some way in the suffering and death of Jesus: Peter, Pilate, Mary Magdalene, Simon of Cyrene, the daughters of Jerusalem, and the woman who anointed Jesus.

Pilgrimage: In the Footsteps of Jesus Because Jesus entered our world in the human condition, our faith has deep roots in the physical places where he was born, walked and talked, laughed and wept, suffered, died, and rose again. Though a bodily pilgrimage may not be possible for many, this imaginative

pilgrimage unites these hallowed places with the sacred texts associated with the life of Jesus.

The Tragic & Triumphant Cross The cross is both the world's most contemptible instrument of punishment and the symbol of humanity's greatest hope. In turning this tool of torture into his followers' proudest boast, Jesus produced the most dramatic reversal the world has ever experienced.

The Resurrection and The Life What exactly did happen on Easter morning? Why did it impel the disciples to begin a journey which would transform the world? What does this mean to us, here where we live today? This book will help you understand what the Scriptures teach us about our own resurrection and how that hope gives purpose to everything we do.

Jesus, the Messianic King: Part One: Matthew (1-16) Matthew's gospel presents Jesus as Israel's royal Messiah, inaugurating God's kingdom in the world. It was written to help Jewish Christians understand that their faith in Jesus was entirely consistent with the faith of ancient Israel. With frequent quotations and allusions from the Old Testament, Matthew demonstrates how Jesus is both Son of David and Son of God. This study will help you understand the scope of this gospel, the clear advice it offers for the church, and its personal implications for the lives of disciples today.

Jesus, the Messianic King: Part Two: Matthew (17-28) The second half of Matthew's Gospel moves from the Transfiguration to the Resurrection, announcing Jesus as the world's true King. The life, death, and resurrection of Jesus bring the hopes of ancient Israel to their dramatic climax, linking Jesus' royal character to his humble service and self-sacrificing love. This study completes the unique portrait of Jesus developed in the first half of Matthew's Gospel and offers firm guidance for the Church and disciples today.

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.

A Year of Mercy-Young Adult Retreat

April 8-10, 2016 | ABRC @ Palisades | Join Fr. Sean Raftis as he reflects on Pope Francis' call for a "Year of Mercy." Click [here](#) to register and for more information.

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.

A Biblical Year of Mercy

A 13-part series is being published from December 2015 to December 2016 in [Arkansas Catholic](#), the weekly newspaper for the Diocese of Little Rock. These articles are being written by the staff of Little Rock Scripture Study for the Holy Year of Mercy. Each one includes questions for group study.

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.

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](#)

National Catholic Schools Week

National Catholic Schools Week starts the last Sunday in January and runs all week, which in 2016 is January 31 - February 6. The theme for the National Catholic Schools Week 2016 is "Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service." Schools typically observe the annual celebration week with Masses, open houses and other activities for students, families, parishioners and community members. Through these events, schools focus on the value Catholic education provides to young people and its contributions to our church, our communities and our nation. ([NCEA](#)) and [Archdiocese of Seattle Catholic Schools](#)

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): Acts of the [Theological Virtues](#) The Acts of Faith, Hope, and Love are ideal prayers to reaffirm basic tenets of the Catholic faith during this Jubilee Year of Mercy.

Each month during the Jubilee of Mercy we will offer a [Meditation on Mercy](#)-a resource that can be used with small groups to foster a greater awareness of God's call to act with mercy in our lives.

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 (Third Week of Ordinary Time): [Angelus: From Sin to Corruption](#) For the whole of the Church: may she never fall from sin to corruption.

NCCL Partners With NACYML For Upcoming MOOC. **NACYML presents a New Massive Open Online Course (MOOC).** February 28-March 19, 2016 (Overview of Mercy with Bishop Caggiano Available February 21) For more information, visit the [nacyml.org](#) website.

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



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