

Archdiocese of Seattle

Religious Education Newsletter

March 14, 2016

Dear Catechetical Colleagues,

This week our "Essential Concept" is the **Universal Call to Prayer, Importance of Prayer**. As I mentioned in our last newsletter, my Dad had been very sick for several weeks and a few days ago, he entered eternal life. During this time of mourning with my family, I have been deeply touched by the number of people who prayed for our family as we walked with our father during this time of transition. Prayer deepens our relationship with God and also offers a great gift for all of us, as we move together through periods of sadness, ordinary life, and joy.

You are also in my ongoing prayers. I am ever so grateful for all of you and I am looking forward to seeing many of you tomorrow with Dr. Ann Garrido's presentation on [March 15th](#) and our Religious Education Workshop/Retreat on [April 28th and 29th](#).

In Christ,
Anne

Upcoming Catechetical Events

Religious Education Standards Deanery Workshops

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 the Liturgy Office [Workshop & Events](#) page 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](#)

Best Practices for Shared Parishes: Intercultural Competencies Workshop

March 16 & 17, 2016 | St. Thomas Church, Tukwila | 9am to 3pm | This workshop was developed based on the responses of a recent study among a group of pastors who achieved a high level of integration and inclusion in the parishes where they serve. See [flyer](#) for registration and more information.

Best Practices for Catechetical Leadership

For the Newly Revised Parish Elementary Religion Standards
April 28-29, 2016 | ABRC @ Palisades | Visit the OCFE [Events & Resources](#) page for more information.

Revised Order of Celebrating Matrimony Regional Workshop

The Office for Liturgy is working with the FDLC on hosting a northwest regional workshop on the revised Order of Celebrating Matrimony. May 27, 2016 (for Clergy) & May 28, 2016 (for other ministers) | Holy Family Church, Kirkland | 8:30 am to 3:30 pm | Online registration is required and will soon be available at www.fdlc.org/marriage-rite-workshops with a cost of \$55 per person to include lunch, USCCB presenter costs, and workshop materials. Please see the [letter](#) from Andrew Casad, Director of the Liturgy Office for more details. Questions can be directed to 206-382-4838 or Andrew.Casad@seattlearch.org

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

Engaging Adults: Your Church Can't Survive Without Effective Adult

Faith Formation March 16, 2016 | St. Charles Borromeo Church, Tacoma | 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. Spend a day exploring the possibilities and discovering the resources, methods, and strategies for doing effective adult faith formation in the four seasons of adulthood - young adult, midlife adult, mature adult, older adult. Facilitated by Leif Kehrwald-Vibrant Faith. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

Palm Sunday Weekend Silent Retreat

March 18-20, 2016 | ABRC @ Palisades | "The Art of Living From the Cross: Learning to see Suffering as a Gift" led by Monsignor Scott Friend | Click here for registration and more information.

Holy Thursday Pilgrimage

March 24th & 25th, 2016 | 6:00 pm - 12:00 am | Join Archbishop Sartain, Bishop Elizondo and hundreds of young adults (18-39) as we pilgrimage around Capitol and First Hills in Seattle for the Annual Holy Thursday Pilgrimage. Join us after participating in your Parish Liturgy or for the Mass of the Lord's supper at St. James which begins at 6PM. Gather at 8:00 pm @ St. James Cathedral steps.

It's Our World-Resources for Missionary Discipleship

The Missionary Childhood Association (MCA) has a new resources page for children, adolescents and families! Resources include ... Year of Mercy "Missionary Works of Mercy"; Stations of the Cross for Teens (available in English and Spanish); MCA Lenten Prayer Service & Stations of the Cross (available in English and Spanish) ; and more! Visit <http://missio.org/resources>

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 can be sent to the [Missions Office](#) where one can get resources and other assistance with the contest.

Notre Dame Center for Liturgy-Summer Study Weeks

In the summer of 2017, the Center for Liturgy will be hosting three study weeks for those involved in liturgical formation, sacramental catechesis, and liturgical music ministry. For study week descriptions and other information, visit [Notre Dame Center for Liturgy](#)

June 19-23, 2017: The Liturgy of Time and Space

June 18-22, 2018: The Eucharistic Life

June 15-19, 2019: Sacraments for the Life of the World



Essential Religious Education Concepts

The Universal Call to Prayer, Importance of Prayer [2558-2758]

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 4 - Learning to Pray - *Students experience and engage in Catholic expressions of prayer to deepen their relationship with God and 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-Links and Videos

Prayer God invites us into a relationship with Him that is both personal and communal. He speaks to us through His Son, Jesus Christ, the Word-made-flesh. Prayer is our response to God who is already speaking or, better yet, revealing Himself to us. Therefore, prayer is not merely an exchange of words, but it engages the whole person in a relationship with God the Father, through the Son, and in the Holy Spirit.

Scripture Reflection: Who is My Neighbor? The Good Samaritan is a story we all probably know well. In the Gospel of Luke, Jesus uses this story to teach us that it

is our duty to look after the welfare of all those we encounter, regardless of social status, ethnicity, or religion. We are called to care for the stranger. This is a message that we understand and strive to live out daily. But isn't it interesting that this man, an expert in religious law, even asks Jesus this seemingly obvious question - "Who is my neighbor?"

"Prayer: The Faith Prayed" This year, the Church will celebrate Catechetical Sunday on September 18, 2016 and will focus on the theme "Prayer: The Faith Prayed." Those who the Community has designated to serve as catechists will be called forth to be commissioned for their ministry.



Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Catechetical Sunday is an opportunity for all to rededicate themselves to this mission as a community of faith.

C4: Ignite Your Catholic Faith - What is Prayer?

For many, prayer plays a huge role in their lives. But what exactly IS prayer? And why is it so important? Bishop Don offers us some great insight into the power of prayer, and the many different ways we can benefit from it. Based upon the Catechism of the Catholic Church (2559)



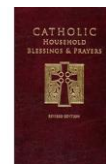
Tips for Praying

Prayer isn't just another good thing to do; it's absolutely necessary if we want to know God's will in our lives and draw closer to him. The trouble is finding the time and willpower to pray. In this video, Fr. Mike Schmitz suggests being a bit more intentional in our prayer lives, asking these four simple questions: When should I pray, where should I pray, what should I pray, and why should I pray?

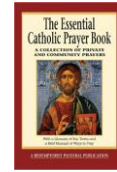


Resources from the LMC on The Universal Call to Prayer, Importance of Prayer

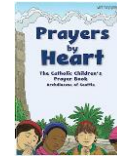
Catholic Household Blessings & Prayers: Revised Edition (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops) The perfect resource for parents and children to explore the rich treasury of the Catholic tradition of prayer. * Learn the by-hearts the essential prayers that every Catholic child and adult need to know by memory * Practice the simple form of the Liturgy of the Hours as a family * Celebrate the feasts and seasons of the Church year in ritual and prayer * Bless the sacramentals that are part of the Catholic tradition like the advent wreath, Christmas crèche, Easter foods, and candles for the home * Lead grace before and after meals * Pray for family members * Bless the home before a move and in times of trouble.



The Essential Catholic Prayer Book: A Collection of Private and Community Prayers (Judith A. Bauer) Bringing together more than 250 traditional prayers and devotions that cover every aspect of the Catholic heritage, including prayers for holy days, special occasions, the Mass, reconciliation, personal needs, prayers to Jesus Christ and the Holy Trinity and a variety of other texts for private and communal use.



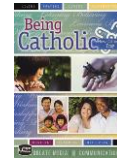
Prayers by Heart: The Catholic Children's Prayer Book (Archdiocese of Seattle) Created to support the Archdiocese of Seattle's Faith Formation Standards and designed to introduce young children to the beautiful prayers of our Catholic faith. Incorporating these prayers and family blessings in their daily 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.



Oremus: A Guide to Catholic Prayer (DVD, Ascension Press) In this eight-part DVD series, Fr. Mark Toups guides you through the simple, yet profound steps to an effective and fruitful prayer life. You will discover how God speaks to you, even in the smallest encounters. Following the Tradition of the Catholic Church and the wisdom of the saints, you will learn how to express yourself to God in prayer, and how to hear his voice.



Being Catholic: How Catholics Pray (DVD, Videos with Values) Whatever form it takes, prayer is, at its heart, a communication with God; an acknowledgment that God is present to everyone, is speaking with everyone, and invites everyone to respond. All prayer is, in effect, directed to God, even if addressing Mary or the saints. The saints are asked to join and intercede with the Father and creator, in Jesus' name, prompted by the Holy Spirit. In addition to prayers of intercession, the program explains other types of prayers common in Catholic faith.



Library Media Center Resources

[Check It Out Newsletter-March 2016](#)

The Season of Lent

[Pope Francis-Lenten Message 2016](#) The theme of pope Francis' [Lenten message](#) is "The Works of Mercy on the Road of the Jubilee." Visit the [Corporal Works of Mercy](#) USCCB page for a variety of resources.

[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](#)

Mercy and Movies: Lenten Viewing for the Year of Mercy In this Year of Mercy, here are [spiritual viewing recommendations](#) that emphasize responding to the needs of those around us.

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



Arts & Faith; Fifth Sunday of Lent



Palm Sunday

EASTER SUNDAY

EVERY TIME
CATHOLICS
CELEBRATE MASS
THEY CELEBRATE



Holy Week in Two Minutes

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.

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

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.

***NEW* The Original Image of Divine Mercy-Documentary Film**

A timely documentary, [The Original Image of Divine Mercy](#) features key witnesses to the mysterious case of a painting that survived the Soviet Occupation of Vilnius, with exclusive commentary by Bishop Robert Barron, George Weigel, Christoph Cardinal Schönborn of Vienna, Stanisław, and many others including a special footage with Pope Francis. For more information about how to bring the film to your community, contact the production office at tour@divinemercyfilm.com or at 210-232-7647.

Online Courses for the Year of Mercy-Diocese of St. Cloud

Three online courses [available](#) Titles include: Forgive All Offenses/Injury; Comfort the Afflicted; and Shelter the Homeless/Welcome the Stranger.

Divine Mercy for Kids

You can find a dozen free downloadable worksheets for various age groups that explain the Divine Mercy image and devotion. Visit TheDivineMercy.org

Divine Mercy & The Divine Comedy

During this Year of Mercy (December 8, 2015-November 20, 2016) Pope Francis has asked us to use Dante's Divine Comedy as a "spiritual guide." Knowing how intimidating this project sounds, the **Department of Evangelization and Catechesis of the Diocese of Rochester** has put together [a reading plan](#) along with a group of theologians, literary scholars, and other lovers of Dante's work to help us all mine the riches from one whom Pope Benedict XV called "the most eloquent singer of the Christian idea."

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 App

The new 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](#)

NORTHWEST
CATHOLIC

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 (Fifth Week of Lent): Lectio Divina for the Fourth Sunday of Lent

Lectio Divina is a form of meditation rooted in liturgical celebration that dates back to early monastic communities. It involves focused reading of Scripture, meditation on the Word of God, contemplation of the Word and its meaning in one's life and ends with prayer. This Lectio Divina resource on the readings for the first Sunday of Lent focuses on themes of the Jubilee of Mercy and can be used by individuals or in group settings. [English](#) [Spanish](#)

World Youth Day Stateside (Webinar Event): Those who travel to celebrate the international World Youth Day in Krakow are only one segment of this universal pilgrimage. This [webinar](#) will help pastoral leaders in any ministry to connect to this jubilee celebration of the "young Church," in any place around the United States. Bishop Frank Caggiano, episcopal liaison to World Youth Day, and Paul Jarzembowski, USCCB's World Youth Day USA coordinator, Jonathan Lewis of the Archdiocese of Washington and Deb Waters of the Diocese of Harrisburg will share ways to develop a stateside pilgrimage for youth and young adults this summer.

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 (Fifth Sunday of Lent): Families of Mercy: 10 Practical Ways to Get Families Excited During the Year of Mercy

Presented by: Michele Faehnle and Emily Jaminet, Co-authors of Divine Mercy for Moms/Date: **March 15, 2016/Time: 3 - 4 pm EST**-How can parishes get parents and families excited about the Year of Mercy? Authors, speakers, small group leaders, and conference organizers Michele Faehnle and Emily Jaminet will share ten ways parishes can invite families to practice the works of mercy in their communities, especially during the Year of Mercy.

The goal of this presentation is to help parish leaders present the fourteen works of mercy in a way that is practical and helpful for families. Participants will be excited to practice the works of mercy themselves and, at the same time, able to convince others to join them. Register [here](#).

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. 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.

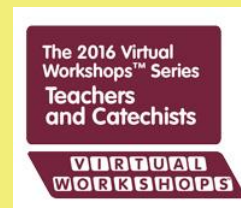


March Prayer Intention

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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