

Holy Rosary Faith Formation Program

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February 2016 Newsletter

CALENDAR

February 24 – Class, ACRE Assessment & 1st Eucharist Parent Meeting

March 2 - Class & Reconciliation

March 9 – Grades 1-9: Divine Savior Passion Play
Grades 10-11: at Holy Rosary
Grades 1-9 will be attending the Passion Play that Divine Savior Catholic School is staging at SS. Peter & Paul parish.
Grades 9-11 will be practicing for the Lenten Family Night.

March 13 – Faith Formation Sunday
Grades 1 & 7 will be participating in our 10:00 am Mass

March 16 – Lenten Family Night
The Sophomores and Juniors will be putting on a play for us – “The Last Supper”
Meeting with Juniors to follow concerning Confirmation

March 19 – Potato Pancake Supper
Information was mailed to all families

March 23 – No Classes this week. Please plan on attending our Holy Week services.

LENTEN FAMILY NIGHT

Please join us Wednesday evening, March 16 for a Lenten Family Night. Our Pastoral Leader Joe Zenk will be joining us as he and our sophomores and juniors will be putting on the play “The Last Supper.”

JUNIOR MEETING CONCERNING CONFIRMATION

Following the Lenten Family Night, we will have a short meeting with the juniors and any parents who would like to attend to talk about the start of their Confirmation Program.

FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM'S ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

Please mark your calendar for Saturday, March 19 for our Potato Pancake Supper. We will be serving from 4:30-7:00 pm. All families were mailed the information for this year's supper. We need everyone's help to make it a success. This project is a great way for parents and students to work side by side.



FIRST EUCHARIST PARENT MEETING

Reminder for second grade parents, the First Eucharist Parent Meeting is this Wednesday, February 24 at 6:15 pm in the Faith Formation Room. This is a mandatory meeting for parents, so if you are unable to attend, please contact me to make other arrangements. The second grade students will have class as usual.

RECONCILIATION

Each year we offer all students in grades 2-11 an opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Grades 3-9 will have the opportunity to participate on March 2.

ACRE TESTING

One of the requirements from the diocese we need to complete each year is to provide an ACRE Assessment to grades 5, 8 & 11 to see how well our students know their faith by these certain grade levels. The assessment is being given this Wednesday evening during regular class time. Please let your children know there is no need to study for this test, it's just a standardize test. Students will have as much time as they need to complete the test. When we receive the results, if parents are interested, we can let you know how your child did. Although the test is not part of any grading we do at Holy Rosary (we don't give out grades), we do ask the students to please do their best on the test.

LENT

What are you doing this Lent? Lent is a season set aside for repentance and renewal. It is a chance to renew our commitment to God, reflect upon our lives and respond to Jesus' call to love and forgive one another. Lent is a time to look inward, to see who we really are, and where we are going. Sometimes we need to slow down, spend a little more time in prayer, spend a little time in service to others, spend some time fasting from those things we over indulge in.

Pope Francis has declared this year a Jubilee Year of Mercy. This year for our Lenten Project, entitled *Companions on the Journey – Sharing God's Mercy*, we are invited to live this Year of Mercy in a hands-on way. We are highlighting seven local agencies in our area where the corporal and spiritual works of mercy are being lived. The seven areas are:

- ♥ Lakeside Habitat for Humanity,
- ♥ Father Carr's Place 2B – a life enrichment center that ministers to the poor and provides family & community activities in Oshkosh.
- ♥ Hope House of Manitowoc County provides immediate shelter and guidance to homeless individuals and families.
- ♥ New Hope Pregnancy Center of Sheboygan helps women to know and understand all of the pregnancy options.
- ♥ Halfway Homes for Struggling Teens help teens to get their life back on track.
- ♥ Local Nursing Homes provide a safe and caring place for those who can no longer care for themselves.
- ♥ Soup Kitchen at the New Community Shelter in Green Bay offers a community meal program serves children and adults who are hungry, no questions asked.

We have some great opportunities for acts of mercy/ service to these groups. Maybe now is the time to look beyond our daily activities and see what we can be doing for others. If you are interested in helping in one of the areas and are looking for ideas, please call the parish.

What are you doing this Lent?

FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEERS

A sign-up sheet is available in the school entry way for students who would like to help out at the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry during the months of March-August.

SERVICE HOURS

If your child in grades 7-11 has complete any service hours this year, please remind your child to request a Community Service Hour Form from their catechist and turn in the completed forms. The forms are also available in the Faith Formation office and on the parish website.

TUITION ASSISTANCE

Through the generosity of two parish members who passed away in 2014, two major donations were made to the Holy Rosary Educational Endowment Fund. Part of the bequests stated the money is to be used for tuition assistance for Holy Rosary students to receive a Catholic education. Our Advisory Committee is including our Faith Formation Program students in the tuition assistance. Grants for the 2016/17 school year are available to any Holy Rosary Parish Registered Family with students in our Faith Formation Program. Specific amounts of tuition assistance have yet to be determined. If you would like to request assistance for next year, you must request an application from the parish office. Applications are due May 1.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please do not hesitate to contact the Faith Formation Office at anytime if you have questions or concerns. I can be reached at 898-9248 (Faith Formation Office), 898-4884 (Parish Office) or at holyrosaryreled@gmail.com

May this Remaining Lenten Season be a Time of Renewal and Opening of our Hearts to the Mercy God is Inviting Us To!

Sue Philippi
Faith Formation Coordinator