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Catechist Update

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 7

JANUARY 4, 2009

Growth and Development

Next year we will be in the new church for Mass, isn't that great!!! With that we will be able to expand our offerings.

The current hope is that we will offer another session of RE, with offerings from babysitting for toddlers through adults all at the same time. This

would take place between the 9am Mass and the 11:30 Mass (note the change). This would allow for socializing after Mass and then classes would begin.

If we were to make this change, how many of you would be interested in moving from your current time slot

and teaching during this time slot? Please fill out the short survey on the last page of this newsletter and return to me by Feb 1st. Thank you for your cooperation.

Jamie

Upcoming Events:

- K4J Jan 9th
- Marriage Enrichment —Fondue Night Jan 17th
- Confirmation Retreat Jan 23-25

Parenting for Peace and Justice Group

Community Life Ministries at Holy Redeemer Catholic Parish would like to provide a new opportunity for parents who are interested in learning about how to strengthen their families in the areas of:

- Providing education and experiences on peace, justice and global issues for families
- Promoting skill development for children to be justice-doers and peacemakers rooted in Catholic values

- Share, pray and develop a spirituality of justice in a family context
- Incorporate global citizenship concepts into family practice and community advocacy
- Remain active in community issues and advocate for positive social change in the context of parenting for the common good
- Build healthy communities and support family participation in the parish community

If you are interested in being a part of Parenting for Peace and Justice we would reflect, pray and discuss our values for parenting strengths in our hope of working for positive social change and create and build community with parents and children.

Please contact Megan Shanahan for details (contact info on back page)

Portfolio Ideas for Unit 4: The Church

Jan 25/27

Idea 1: Take a Picture...of the kids all tangled up in a web of yarn. Talk about how as the church we are interconnected and can't break from that connection, even when we try to walk away. (all ages)

Idea 2: The Four Marks
Have the students define or draw pictures of the four marks of the church: One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic.

Idea 3: The Body of Christ
Using an outline of a body, have students write characteristics they possess that would fit in each of the body parts on the outline. Then have them write what they think it means to be a member of the Body of Christ. (4th-5th)

Questions and Answers for Week 13: Early Followers of Jesus

Kindergarten:

No Pages

First Grade:

No Pages

Second Grade:

No Pages

Third Grade:

Pg. 5 Where can you find Pentecost in the Bible?

What happened at Pentecost? **The Holy Spirit came down and there were many converts to Christ.**

Where can you find the story of Paul's conversion in the Bible?

Pg. 9 Name a story from Bible that shows God's creating love. **Adam and Eve**

Name a story from the Bible that shows God's saving love. **Abraham and Issac**

Name a story from the Bible that shows God's transforming love. **Lazarus**

Pg. 10

Answers vary

Pg. 24

Some Important Men and Women from the Early Church	They give glory to God by...
Paul	Spreading the Message of Jesus
Mary Magdalene	Financed Jesus' Ministry
Mary, Mother of God	Trusted in God

Fourth Grade:

Pg. 18 We are called to live moral lives. What does that mean? **We should live according to God's law.**

How is the call to live a moral life connected to our Baptism? **In Baptism we make the commitment, or our parents make the commitment to learn and live accord to God's law.**

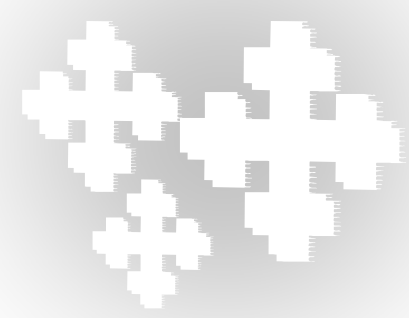
How can frequent participation in the Sacraments help you lead a good life? **They give graces that make us strong.**

How is Jesus the role model for all Christians? **He is always loving.**

Fifth Grade:

No Journal Pages

The Role of the Christian Family In the Modern World: Article 10



In conformity with her constant tradition, the Church receives from the various cultures everything that is able to express better the unsearchable riches of Christ.(18) **Only with the help of all the cultures will it be possible for these riches to be manifested ever more clearly, and for the Church to progress towards a daily more complete and profound awareness of the truth,** which has already been given to her in its entirety by the Lord.



It is by means of "inculturation" that one proceeds towards the full restoration of the covenant with the Wisdom of God, which is Christ Himself. The whole Church will be enriched also by the cultures which, though lacking technology, abound in human wisdom and are enlivened by profound moral values.

So that the goal of this journey might be clear and consequently the way plainly indicated,

the Synod was right to begin by considering in depth the original design of God for marriage and the family: it "went back to the beginning," in deference to the teaching of Christ.(19)

Holding fast to the two principles of the compatibility with the Gospel of the various cultures to be taken up, and of communion with the universal Church, there must be further study, particularly by the Episcopal Conferences and the appropriate departments of the Roman Curia, and greater pastoral diligence so that this "inculturation" of the Christian faith may come about ever more extensively, in the context of marriage and the family as well as in other fields.

Questions to reflect on:

- What do you know of other cultures?
- Do you welcome other cultures as co-members of the Body of Christ?
- Do you hold prejudices towards others without realizing it? Do you stereotype?
- How do you pass along a love for all people to the children you work with and your own children?

Coming Soon: Mother-Daughter Retreat

Do you need some quality time with your daughter? Do you know someone who does? Spend a day and night together this spring at the Griffin Center in Portland, OR renewing your relationship with one another. For girls in 8th through 12th grade and their mothers, this chance to renew will be a blessing in both of their lives. There will be time for just moms, time for just girls, and times when mother-daughter will be alone to share their thoughts and feelings. Save the Date: May 8th-May 9th, 2009.



Faith Formation

2009-2010 Faith Formation Survey

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Circle all that apply:

I am a Parent Catechist Other Volunteer

I currently have children attending/am volunteering during
Sun 4-5 Sun 6-7:30 Tues 4:30-5:30

Circle the number that most accurately corresponds with your thoughts for next year:

If we added a Sunday morning session (10:15-11:15) I would most likely

1. Continue with what we have been doing.
2. Switch my children and volunteer during the new session.
3. Switch my children and take the adult class.
4. Switch my children but not volunteer or take the adult class.



Comments:

Optional:

Name: _____

E-Mail: _____

Idea for Middle School and High School Reflection: Psalm 139:1-18

- What are the personal traits that I bring with me to community?
- What are my future goals and dreams? How do they incorporate themselves into our community?
- Have you ever felt separated or cast aside by the community? What did that feel like?

Go created us and watches over us. He knows all there is to know about us and loves us still. His love is everlasting.

Read Psalm 139:1-18

Have students journal on the following questions:

- What type of relationship do I have with God, who

brought me into being?

- How has God been present in my life, and how have I been present to God?