

Physical Address:
17010 NE 9th St.
Vancouver, WA
98684

- Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers to talk September 24th 6:45pm
RSVP for baby-sitting.

FAMILY UPDATES

Volume 1, Issue 2

September 21, 2008

The Creed, Article 1: I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of Heaven and Earth.

We begin each year with God the Father, creator of heaven and earth. I already know about God the Father, why do we do this every year? Well, do you really know all you could know about God the Father? I believe it was St. Thomas who said that there will always be more about God that we don't know than we know.

If you have a *Catechism of the Catholic Church* turn to paragraphs 198-354. All of these represent the teaching of the Church in regards to God the Father. This is much more than just a couple pages as found in many of the textbooks. Chal-

lenge yourself this week. What can you, as an adult, discover



about God the Father that you didn't know before? How will you do this? Through prayer, through reading the Scripture, through study?

Paragraphs 222-227 show us the implications of Faith in One God. Ponder these implications

for your life this week:

- It means coming to know God's greatness and majesty.
- It means living in thanksgiving.
- It means knowing the unity and true dignity of all men.
- It means making good use of created things.
- It means trusting God in every circumstance.

Journals? What are they? Why does my child have one?

Grades K through 8th grade have journals that they are asked to complete throughout the year. These journals provide both them and their parents a chance to see how they are growing in their understanding of the faith. Please use them. I will try to provide sample answers for the upcoming weeks in each Catechist Up-

date so you have a handle on what types of answers to expect. These can be found on the parish website.

Remember: This is not a right/wrong, full answer/partial answer process. It is a chance for kids to show where they are on a given day about a given idea/

concept. If they don't know, they should put, "I don't know" Then, maybe you could prompt them to ask Fr. Mitchell or others to find out. You should be aware of concepts students are having difficulty with each week, if not, ask your child's catechist.

Prayers



On the first night of class, your child will receive a list of prayers given to us by the Archdiocese of Seattle. The Archbishop has requested that students work on memorizing prayers throughout their elementary and middle school years.

Throughout the year,

Chris Martin, our prayer coordinator, will be coming by to listen to kids in grades K through 5 recite their memorized prayers.

What if my child has trouble memorizing?

We are asking that you and your children do your best. Work with your children, perhaps adding

the prayers into your nightly prayer routine.

It's not a pass/fail type of program—just a tool to help your family grow in faith. Memorized prayers are something many of us fall back on in times of stress and anxiety.

Adult Faith Formation to Start Soon

Scripture Study—The Gospel of Luke

Two time slots are available: Tues from 6:30-8pm and Thurs from 7-8:30 pm. Babysitting is available for the Thurs slot. Please RSVP babysitting needs. Book cost \$10. Sign up today. Classes will begin next week, Sept 30th and Oct 2nd.

Foundations of Faith Series

Our hosting of this program is in danger of being cancelled. We need 15 more participants by Wednesday to keep it running. See me at RE or e-mail if you are interested. Cost is \$140 for seven four-hour classes.

Made in the Image of God Series

There is still plenty of room for the Deacon Harold talk this Wednesday. Now that we have the new parish space, we are blessed to be able to accommodate many more people. RSVP if you need babysitting. Arrive by 6:45pm. Talk will promptly begin at 7pm.



The Role of the Christian Family In the Modern World:

Article 3

Since God's plan for marriage and the family touches men and women in the concreteness of their daily existence in specific social and cultural situations, *the Church ought to apply herself to understanding the situations within which marriage and the family are lived today*, in order to fulfill her task of serving. (8)

This understanding is, therefore, an inescapable requirement of the work of evangelization. It is, in fact, *to the families of our times that the Church must bring the unchangeable and ever new Gospel of Jesus Christ*, just as it is the families involved in the present conditions of the world that are called to accept and to live the plan of God that pertains to them. Moreover, the call and demands of the Spirit resound in the very events of history, and so the Church can also be guided to a more profound understanding of

the inexhaustible mystery of marriage and the family by the circumstances, the questions and the anxieties and hopes of the young people, married couples and parents of today. (9)

To this ought to be added a further reflection of particular importance at the present time. Not infrequently ideas and solutions which are very appealing but which obscure in varying degrees the truth and the dignity of the human person, are offered to the men and women of today, in their sincere and deep search for a response to the important daily problems that affect their married and family life. These views are often supported by the powerful and pervasive organization of the means of social communication,

which subtly endanger freedom and the capacity for objective judgment.

Many are already aware of this danger to the human person and are working for the truth. The Church, with her evangelical discernment, joins with them, offering her own service to the truth, to freedom and to the dignity of every man and every woman.



We are all called to have Holy Families.

Questions to reflect on:

- Do I feel that the Church is striving to understand my family and my circumstances?
- How do I bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to my family?

Discipleship Challenge of the Week:

Are you ever jealous of others or what they have?

When this happens think about all the great things God has given you. Your friends, your family, your church...all these things are riches in your

life.

God doesn't always give us what we want, but he gives us what we need. Sometimes we don't know what we need, or think we know what we need, but as the first read-

ing says, "God's thoughts are above our thoughts." Have confidence in God in all you do.

Modified from *Magnifikid*, Sept. 21, 2008

Questions and Answers for Week 1: God the Father

Kindergarten:

- Pg 7. Retell the Story of creation. (Have them draw it.)
- Pg. 8 Draw a picture of some things God has made. **Plants, People, Animals, Rocks, Mountains, etc.**
- Pg 9. Explain why creation is good. **Because God made it and everything God make is good.**

First Grade: No Pages

Second Grade:

- Pg. 9 **All Personal, no right, wrong.**
- Pg. 12 Retell the story of Creation. **Use Genesis.**
- Pg. 54 Draw a picture of your body and soul connected. **Personal.**

Third Grade: No Pages

Fourth Grade:

- Pg 12. How is all of creation sacred, interdependent, and deserving of respect? **All of creation is sacred because God made it. All of creation is interdependent because everything relies on everything else (food chain, human-environment interaction). All of creation is deserving of respect because God made it.**
- How is understanding this a principle for living a moral life? **To live a moral life means to always try to do the right thing. Understanding that we should respect the world as God's creation helps us to remember to take care of it. We are called to be good stewards of God's creation.**

Fifth Grade:

Pg. 10 What is a steward?

A caretaker, one who watches out for an estate.

What is stewardship? **Giving of our time, talent, and treasure to build up the Kingdom of God.**

Name three ways YOU can be a responsible steward of God's Creation: **examples**

- Altar Serving**
- Recycling**
- Giving money**

As a family, create a goal for this school year that relates to being good stewards of creation: **As a Family**

Pg 6. See grid to the right

Sacrament	Outward Sign (Matter)	Spiritual Mean (effect)
Baptism	<i>Water, White Cloth, Chrism, Words</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Welcomed into the Christian community</i> • <i>Forgiveness of sins</i> • <i>Born into new life</i> • <i>Receive the Holy Spirit</i>
Confirmation	<i>Chrism, Laying on of Hands</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>United more firmly to Christ</i> • <i>Deeper participation in the Church</i> • <i>Strengthened to spread the faith</i> • <i>Increased gifts of the Holy Spirit</i>
Eucharist	<i>Wheat Bread, Grape Wine</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Strength for everyday living</i> • <i>Unity with God, Christ dwelling in us body, blood, soul, and divinity</i>
Reconciliation	<i>Laying on of Hands, Words</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Forgiveness of sins</i> • <i>Conversion</i>
Anointing	<i>Oil of the Sick, Words</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Unites suffering to the Passion</i> • <i>Forgiveness of sins</i> • <i>Strengthens us and gives us peace</i> • <i>Regain physical and mental health</i> • <i>Prepare a person for death</i>
Marriage	<i>Marriage Vows, (Ring)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Special graces needed for married life are bestowed</i>
Holy Orders	<i>Laying on of Hands, Words</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Powers bestowed for conferring the sacraments</i>