

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

Upcoming Events:

- K4J Dec 12th
(6-8)
- Penance Service
Dec 12th 7pm
- High School
Retreat Dec 12-
14 at Anderson
Lodge
- Jan 5th Faith
Formation
Commission

FAMILY UPDATES

Volume 1, Issue 5

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Faith Formation Commission

The Faith Formation Commission is an advisory board to the Faith Formation Office. Our first meeting of the year will be Jan 5th from 7pm-8pm. All members of the parish are welcome to attend.

We will be discussing the current year and talking about changes to occur once we are able to worship in the new

church. RSVP with Jamie if you plan on attending. Contact information is on page 4.

We will also be reviewing recommendations made last year and their implementation.



Celebrating Advent

How does your family celebrate Advent? Ideas to prepare for the coming of God.

- Put up a Jesse Tree and study the Old Testament.
- Reflect on the Sunday readings as a family.

How do you make straight the path to God for your children?

- Create an Advent chain with loving acts to do each day as you pull each

length off and get closer to Christmas.



Do you have neat Christmas Ideas? E-mail them to me and I will post them in next week's newsletter.

Feast of the Immaculate Conception



Jean Bellegambe
Saint Anne conceiving the Virgin Mary
Douai, Musée de la Chartreuse

Did you realize that this feast really celebrates the conception of Mary without sin? Each year I meet someone new who thought it had to do with the conception of Jesus. I can understand why...we celebrate it in Advent, the preparation of the birth of Jesus, and we know Jesus was sinless.

But, this feast takes it a step further back in history. Reflect on the sinless Mary. Before she held God in her womb for nine months she was already fit to be his mother.

Pray for all mothers that they turn to God for the strength they need to be the best parent they can be. He will provide!

Northwest Family Services

Northwest Family Services will join us again this Wednesday from 7-8:30pm. This week's topic is "Get the Facts." A presenter will come help parents to know the facts of teen promiscuity in our area. While this is a religiously neutral presentation, it should not be a deterrent to attendance. This is about statistics and life lived, Deacon Harold already came to talk about the Theology of the Body in September. Please call to let me know if you are coming, I will have yummy cookies for attendees!



The Role of the Christian Family In the Modern World:

Article 6

The situation in which the family finds itself presents positive and negative aspects: the first are a sign of the salvation of Christ operating in the world; the second, a sign of the refusal that man gives to the love of God.

On the one hand, in fact, there is a more lively awareness of *personal freedom and greater attention to the quality of interpersonal relationships in marriage, to promoting the dignity of women, to responsible procreation, to the education of children. There is also an awareness of the need for the development of interfamily relationships, for reciprocal spiritual and material assistance, the rediscovery of the ecclesial mission proper to the family and its responsibility for the building of a more just society.* On the other hand, however, signs are not lacking of a disturbing degradation of some fundamental values: **a mistaken theoretical and practical concept of the independence of the spouses in relation to each other; serious misconceptions regarding the relationship of authority between parents and children; the concrete difficulties that the family itself experiences in the transmission of values; the growing number of divorces; the scourge of abortion; the ever more frequent recourse to sterilization; the appearance of a truly contraceptive mentality.**

At the root of these negative phenomena there frequently lies a **corruption of the idea and**

the experience of freedom, conceived not as a capacity for realizing the truth of God's plan for marriage and the family, but as an autonomous power of self-affirmation, often against others, for one's own selfish well-being.

Worthy of our attention also is the fact that, in the countries of the so-called Third World, families often lack both the means necessary for survival, such as food, work, housing and medicine, and the most elementary freedoms. In the richer countries, on the contrary, excessive prosperity and the consumer mentality, paradoxically joined to a certain anguish and uncertainty about the future, deprive married couples of the generosity and courage needed for raising up new human life: thus life is often perceived not as a blessing, but as a danger from which to defend oneself

The historical situation in which the family lives therefore appears as an interplay of light and darkness.

This shows that history is not simply a fixed progression towards what is better, but rather an event of freedom, and even a struggle between

freedoms that are in mutual conflict, that is, according to the well-known expression of St. Augustine, a conflict between two loves: **the love of God to the point of disregarding self, and the love of self to the point of disregarding God.**(16)

It follows that only an education for love rooted in faith can lead to the capacity of interpreting "the signs of the times," which are the historical .expression of this twofold love.



Questions to reflect on:

- What is your definition of freedom?
- What is the Church's definition of freedom?
- This article lists many positive qualities of family life in today's world, do you witness to these in your own marriage?
- This article also lists a variety of negative characteristics of modern marriage, do you understand why the church views them as negative? If not, where can you go to gain a deeper understanding of Church teaching?

Youth Discipleship Challenge of the Week:

Confession

Attend this Friday's Penance Service at Holy Redeemer.

It will be held at 7pm in the Worship Space.

Questions and Answers for Week 11

Kindergarten: No Pages

First Grade: No Pages

Second Grade: No Pages

Third Grade: No Pages

Fourth Grade: No Pages

Fifth Grade:

Pg. 11 3.5.1 Student will discuss how the Kingdom of God is lived out in families, the community, and the Church.

The Kingdom of God is lived out each time we love. By doing loving acts towards others, whether in our families, in the community, or in Church, we are living the way Christ has called us to live. Loving acts are more than just saying “your hair looks nice today.” It is the sacrifices that mean something, such as, letting your little brother have the last cookie, cleaning up a mess your sister made before your mom knows she made it, or coming to Mass and giving your all to the celebration even when you don’t want to be there. All of these sacrifices show love.

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

Mailing Address:
PO BOX 871417
Vancouver, WA 98687

Staff:

Jamie Kohler, PA for Faith
Formation

Jessica Gustafson, PA for
Sacramental Life

Megan Shanahan, PA for

E-mails: Under Construction

