



OUR LADY OF PEACE
PARISH CATECHETICAL OFFICE
NEWSLETTER
JANUARY 2010



Dear Families,

It's bitterly cold outside as I write, but the weather forecasters assure us more seasonable temperatures are but a few days away. Hopefully that will be the case as you read these words. As Scripture says so well, "This too shall pass." Even if we don't always believe the weatherman, we know that God will soon have the tulips and daffodils pushing through the soil. Don't know about you, but I'm holding onto this thought as I bundle up to race from my car to the office each day.

The Confirmation candidates have been very much in the forefront as they give their service hours to help with the various catechetical gatherings and parish functions. We are grateful to them not only for their help but because they are an important reminder of the sacramental life of the Church. We recently had a gathering for first graders and their parents who are enrolling their children to prepare for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist. Several Confirmation candidates were there to help with the various children's activities. During our time together we shared stories about the day the children were baptized. I couldn't help but notice the evidence of the three Sacraments of Initiation into the Church: those of us who have been baptized, the young children beginning to prepare for First Eucharist, and the teens preparing for Confirmation. This was Church in action!

The Rite of Names is coming up for the eighth-grade Confirmation Candidates, and they will present their written reflection on the saint whose name they are choosing for Confirmation. This reminds me of my Confirmation saint, Saint Agnes, whose feast day is January 21. To be perfectly honest, I really don't remember why I chose her. Maybe it was because she was about my age, 13 years, when she was martyred for her faith in Christ. She was burned at the stake around 305 during the Diocletian persecution when Christians were literally thrown to the lions for professing their faith. Today Saint Agnes is named in the Eucharistic Prayer I at Mass along with several other saints. St Agnes is a reminder to us of the importance the Church places on our young Catholics and that depth of faith has nothing to do with age.

Blessings,

Carol Skrocki

Pastoral Associate for Catechetics

Almighty, eternal God,
you choose what the world considers weak
to put the worldly power to shame.
May we who celebrate the birth of St. Agnes into eternal joy
be loyal to the faith she professed.

Opening Prayer - Mass for the feast of St. Agnes



DATES TO REMEMBER—JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2010

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

January (Happy New Year!)

- 6/7 Classes resume; ACRE Testing for 5th & 8th Grades
- 7 Family-based ACRE testing for 5th & 8th Grades Only,
7:00-8:30 p.m, Parish Hall
- 21 Deadline for February Newsletter

SACRAMENT PREPARATION

SACRAMENT PREPARATION ENROLLMENT (1ST GRADE)

January 9, 2010 3:00 – 5:00 p.m., Parish Hall. At this meeting, parents/guardians, accompanied by their 1st graders, will renew their understanding of Catholic sacraments and enroll their child in our parish sacrament program. Children will begin to gain an understanding of the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist through age-appropriate activities.

FIRST RECONCILIATION (2ND GRADERS)

- February 3, 2010 First Reconciliation Practice – 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm, Church
For those who attend Wednesday Afternoon classes and Family Based Program
- February 4, 2010 First Reconciliation Practice – 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm, Church
For those who attend Thursday Afternoon classes, OLP Students and Other Private Schools
- February 4, 2010 **First Reconciliation**, 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm, Church
- February 6, 2010 **First Reconciliation**, 11:30 am – 1:00 pm, Church
- February 13, 2010 **First Reconciliation**, 11:30 am – 1:00 pm, Church



FIRST EUCHARIST (3RD GRADERS)

January 17, 2010 Eucharist Preparation Mass 3, 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12 Noon, Church

Confirmation Preparation for First-Year Candidates (at least 8th grade) for Easter Season 2011

January 23, 2010 Rite of Names, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m., Parish Hall

Confirmation Preparation for Second-Year Candidates (at least 9th grade) for Easter Season 2010

January 16, 2010 Post-Christmas Gathering, 4:00 - 7:30 p.m., Parish Hall

PARISH NEWS

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD IS THE FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

FAMILY LITURGY IS THE THIRD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

WOMEN'S CORNERSTONE

Friday evening, March 26, to Saturday evening, March 27, 2010 — Rev. Charles Gusmer is the Spiritual Director. Call the rectory at 464-7600 for more information.

OLP HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP INTRODUCTION MEETING

January 12, 2010, 7:30 p.m. in Parish Library. All high school students and adults who are interested in helping form a vibrant High School Youth Group at OLP are welcome!

January 19, 2010, 7:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall—First H.S. Youth Group Event

Academy of Our Lady of Peace

January 31, 2010—begins Catholic Schools Week with an Open House

March 19, 2010— Annual Tricky Tray Party

Pray Your Own Way

When to pray? Unlike at Mass, families are not bound by a specific time to spout their own Prayers of the Faithful. Try these times:

- Before dinner, going around the table.
- Before bed, either just with one child and one parent or with the whole family.
- On a car trip. Put down the PSP and take 10 minutes to voice prayers.
- In the car, on the way to school. Pray when you hear a siren, too.
- While doing mundane chores, like dishes or folding laundry.

Special Recognition



Micayla Bulger, a student in our 5th grade Religious Education Program, decided that she wanted to help the less fortunate this past Thanksgiving. She wanted to help the homeless by giving them something to be thankful for. She asked her 5th grade R. E. classmates to bring in donations of clothes, which she then brought to a homeless shelter in North Jersey. GREAT JOB!!

WHAT'S YOUR CATHOLIC IQ??

(ANSWERS ON LAST PAGE)

1. **MEDALS, RELICS, BLESSINGS, AND ROSARIES ARE EXAMPLES OF**
A. INCREMENTALS B. INDULGENCES
C. SACRAMENTALS D. MONUMENTALS
2. **GREGORIAN CHANT TAKES ITS NAME FROM WHICH POPE?**
A. GREGORIAN I B. GREGORIAN II C. GREGORY I
D. GREGORY XVI
3. **THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD, IS CELEBRATED ON**
A. JANUARY 1 B. JANUARY 15 C. FEBRUARY 2
D. AUGUST 15
4. **THE EASTERN ORTHODOX GREETING CHRISTOS ANESTI MEANS**
A. CHRIST FOREVER! B. CHRIST IS LORD C. CHRIST HAS DIED
D. CHRIST IS RISEN
5. **WHEN A BISHOP IS ASSIGNED TO ASSIST THE DIOCESAN BISHOP WITH THE PASTORAL NEEDS OF A DIOCESE, THIS ASSISTING BISHOP IS REFERRED TO AS AN ___ BISHOP.**
A. EXTRAORDINARY B. INCARDINATED
C. AUXILIARY D. ANTIQUATED
6. **THIS FIRST AMERICAN-BORN SAINT DIED ON JANUARY 4, 1821**
A. KATERI TEKAKWITHA B. ELIZABETH ANN SETON C. JOHN NEUMANN
D. AUGUSTUS TOLTON
7. **AGNUS DEI, QUI TOLLIS PECCATA MUNDI,**
A. MISERERE NOBIS B. ET CUM SPIRITU TUO
C. SANCTUS, SANCTUS, SANCTUS D. KYRIE ELEISON
8. **WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING IS NOT DIRECTLY ASSOCIATED WITH THE ROLE OF A BISHOP?**
A. MITER B. CROSIER
C. ASPERGILLUM D. PECTORAL CROSS
9. **THE BOOK THAT CONTAINS THE SCRIPTURE READINGS PROCLAIMED AT MASS IS CALLED THE**
A. SACRAMENTARY B. LECTIONARY C. OSSUARY
D. ROMAN MISSAL
10. **THE CORRECT TITLE FOR A LAY PERSON WHO ASSISTS THE PRIEST WITH THE DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION IS**
A. AUXILIARY MINISTER OF COMMUNION B. EUCHARISTIC MINISTER
C. EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER OF HOLY COMMUNION D. ACOLYTE
11. **THE YEAR OF THE PRIEST THAT WE ARE CURRENTLY CELEBRATING MARKS THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PASING INTO ETERNAL LIFE OF THIS SAINTLY PRIEST.**
A. JOHN BOSCO B. JOHN VIANNEY C. JOHN GOTTI D. JOHN DELASALLE
12. **“CHRIST JESUS VICTOR, CHRIST JESUS RULER, CHRIST JESUS, LORD AND ___”**
A. REDEEMER B. ALMIGHTY C. MESSIAH D. SAVIOR
13. **WHAT FEAST IS GENERALLY CELEBRATED ON THE SUNDAY AFTER JANUARY 6 IN THE UNITED STATES?**
A. EPIPHANY B. PRESENTATION C. ANNUNCIATION D. BAPTISM OF THE LORD
14. **“PRAY FOR US, O HOLY MOTHER OF GOD, THAT WE MAY BE MADE WORTHY OF THE ___ OF CHRIST.”**
A. CROSS B. PROMISES C. SALVATION D. PASCHAL MYSTERY
15. **THE FOLLOWING IS NOT AN EXAMPLE OF A TRANSGRESSION AGAINST THE SEVENTH COMMANDMENT:**
A. PAYING UNJUST WAGES B. BUSINESS FRAUD C. PERJURY
D. TAX EVASION
16. **MARRIAGE (MATRIMONY) AND ___ ARE KNOWN AS SACRAMENTS AT THE SERVICE OF COMMUNION.**
A. ANOINTING OF THE SICK B. CONFIRMATION C. BAPTISM
D. HOLY ORDERS
17. **THIS WORD REFERS TO HUMANKIND'S INCLINATION TO SIN:**
A. CONSUBSTANTIATION B. CONTUMACIOUSNESS C. CONCUPISCENCE
D. CORNUCOPIA
18. **THIS PRIEST AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH WROTE A FAMOUS WORK CALLED THE SUMMA THEOLOGICA**
A. THOMAS MORE B. THOMAS BECKET C. THOMAS AQUINAS
D. THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE
19. **HOW MANY BOOKS IN THE BIBLE CONTAIN THE NAME JOHN IN THE BOOK'S TITLE?**
A. 7 B. 5 C. 3 D. 6
20. **WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATIONS IS NOT MENTIONED IN MATTHEW'S STORY OF THE MAGI?**
A. CAPERNAUM B. BETHLEHEM C. JUDEA D. JERUSALEM

January Youth Club News

Middle School Youth Club (7th and 8th grade)

1/17/10 (*Sunday*) Roller Skating Party – Florham Park
6:30 – 8:30 p.m. **Permission slips and payment necessary. See rectory mail slot for permission slips.**

1/22/10 Youth Club Overnight Retreat – It will end after 8:30 a.m.
6:00 p.m. mass on Saturday, Jan. 23rd. Check Rectory mail slot for
– 9:00 a.m. Sign up brochure. Registration deadline 1-20-10
Due to logistics of planning we cannot accept late Registrations!!!

1/31/09 Service Saturday Opportunity (Joining ALIVE program)
Various Times **Permission slips and registration required!!!**

Junior Youth Club (5th and 6th grade)

1/17/10 (*Sunday*) Roller Skating Party – Florham Park
6:30 – 8:30 p.m. **Permission slips and payment necessary.**

2/6/10 Youth Club – Open Gym
7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Make 1st Communion Necklaces

Thank you to everyone that supported the Pajama Program. We donated a carload of pajamas and books!!

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 908-508-0544 or dwmiller58@verizon.net.

Maureen Miller

Junior / Middle School Youth Minister

Recipes good for SuperBowl Sunday

Garlic Pretzels



- 1 lb. Broken beer pretzels
- 1 c. oil
- 1 tsp. lemon pepper
- 1 tsp. dill seed
- 1Tbsp. Garlic powder
- 1 pkg. Original ranch dressing (dry)

Mix oil, lemon pepper, dill seed, garlic powder and Ranch dressing together. Pour over pretzels broken into bite-size pieces. Let sit overnight, stirring occasionally. Bake at 300 degrees for 10 minutes. Stir. Bake another 10 minutes.

Sloppy Joes

- 1 c catsup
- 1/2 c water
- 2 Tbsp sugar
- 2 Tbsp mustard
- 2 Tbsp vinegar
- 2 tsp Worcestershire sauce
- 1 to 1 1/2 lbs lean ground meat

Brown and drain fat from beef. Mix other ingredients together and add mixture to cooked beef. Simmer over medium heat about 30 minutes. Can be made in advance and reheated. Serve on buns.

Copyright 1991, A Book of Favorite Recipes compiled by The Young Families Group of Our Lady of Peace Church, New Providence, New Jersey

Answers to What's Your Catholic IQ?

1-c, 2-c, 3-a, 4-d, 5-c, 6-b, 7-a, 8-c, 9-b, 10-c, 11-b, 12-a, 13-d, 14-b, 15-c, 16-d, 17-c, 18-c, 19-b, 20-a.

PARTICIPATION IN LITURGY

Some parents have difficulty communicating the enthusiasm and willingness to participate in Sabbath liturgies to their children. Some areas to explore in order to discover the cause of this difficulty and some suggestions for increasing children's ability to be participants are listed here.

- Assist children in becoming part of the celebration according to their age level. Begin with helping them become familiar with a particular prayer or experience that they can look forward to: the Our Father, the Kiss of Peace, the Sign of the Cross, a special song, or a procession.
- Select the parish liturgy (time/celebrant/music) that is most suitable to children.
- Make sure that the family preparation for Mass and the trip to church are peaceful, not rushed and hectic.
- Try to avoid correcting and reprimanding children throughout the Mass.
- Take places up front so that the children can see and hear everything. Make sure they are comfortable.
- Take time to explain or answer any and all questions about the Mass that children might have. Don't postpone answers until later because the children might not be interested later.
- Let younger children bring a small toy, book, or a pencil and paper to use.

