



# ELEMENTARY FAITH FORMATION NEWS

March – April, 2017



*Dear Elementary Faith Formation Families,*

*The season of Lent began on Ash Wednesday and brings with it the promise of Spring. During Lent we are called to leave winter attitudes behind and change ourselves to become better people. The season of Lent is the Church's sacred springtime. It is a time for preparing our hearts and minds for the celebration of Easter.*

## **PARISH RETREAT DAY**

Sunday, March 5, 1pm. Presenter Bro. Mickey McGrath, a gifted artist and storyteller. To register, contact Cathy Johnson at [cjohnson@christourlight.net](mailto:cjohnson@christourlight.net).

## **LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

**EFF students in 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> grade comprise the cast for our annual Living Stations of the Cross. The Monday and Tuesday classes of grade 1-4 will pray the Stations on April 3 & 4. Check EFF folders; students will be bringing participation forms home soon.**

## **SACRAMENT UPDATE**

**FINAL 1<sup>ST</sup> EUCHARIST PARENT/CHILD PREP EVENTS ARE SCHEDULED FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 12 AT 1:00P.M. AND AGAIN ON THURSDAY, MARCH 16 AT 6:00P.M. CHRIST OUR LIGHT WILL CELEBRATE 1<sup>ST</sup> EUCHARIST ON THE FOLLOWING DATES: SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 4:30PM MASS, SUNDAY, APRIL 30, 11AM MASS, SATURDAY, MAY 6, 4:30PM MASS, SUNDAY, MAY 7, 11AM MASS. OUR 1<sup>ST</sup> EUCHARIST FAMILIES ARE IN OUR PRAYERS.**



## **LENTEN OUTREACH/OPERATION RICE BOWL**

**As a community, Christ Our Light is participating in Catholic Relief Services' Operation Rice Bowl. All students will bring Operation Rice Bowl boxes home. Donations are due either at Mass on Palm Sunday, April 9 or can be returned during class the week of April 2.**

## **NEW FOR LENT!**

**COL is offering a series of Soup Suppers throughout the weeks of Lent. Suppers are from 6-7pm in Room A of the Parish Center. The series will include brief videos, guest speakers, and faith sharing on a variety of topics. Dates are: Tuesday, March 7, Wednesday, March 15, Thursday, March 23, Friday, March 31, and Wednesday, April 5. See the Bulletin or parish website for information and to register.**

## **BREAKFAST WITH THE BUNNY & EASTER EGG HUNT - SATURDAY, APRIL 8**

Christ Our Light Elementary Faith Formation and Resurrection Catholic School invite you to a fun morning of breakfast, crafts, games, and Easter egg hunting! Information and forms will be emailed to all families of children in grades Pre-K through 4<sup>th</sup> grade.



## **ANOTHER FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT!**

**Saturday, April 1, 6pm.....Stay tuned for movie title!**

## **PARISH SOCIAL – APRIL 22<sup>ND</sup>**

*All are welcome to the first ever COL parish social! Adults, children, old & young, families, couples, singles – everyone! Look for more details in the parish bulletin and e Newsletter.*

## **5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> GRADE YEAR END ASSESSMENT**

5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grade EFF students will take the year end assessment on Monday, April 24 and Wednesday, April 26. Home School students will be tested on Monday, April 24. Classes will review lessons from the second half of the year the week prior to the test, April 17 & 19. Review materials will be mailed to Home School students.

## **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

Is summer really right around the corner? Here's a sneak peek and information for this summer's VBS.

VBS will run from July 10 – 14, 9:00a.m. – noon. **Maker Fun Factory: Built by God, Created for a Purpose** is this year's theme. Imagine a world where curious kids become hands on inventors who discover they're lovingly crafted by God. VBS is open to children who will be 4 years old by June 30, 2017 through entering 5<sup>th</sup> grade in September, 2017. Check future parish bulletins and the COL website for registration info and volunteer opportunities.



## **LOOKING TOWARD SEPTEMBER**

Elementary Faith Formation registration forms for the 2017 – 2018 academic year will be mailed to families whose children currently attend our parish faith formation classes. Families new to Christ Our Light Elementary Faith Formation can access registration materials as of April 19 from the parish website: [www.christourlight.net](http://www.christourlight.net). Download the forms, complete them, and return to the Office of Elementary Faith Formation with the appropriate fee for your family. Questions? Contact Ginny Grogan: [ggrogan@christourlight.net](mailto:ggrogan@christourlight.net) or call 856-667-2440 x347.

## **EFF CALENDAR UPDATE**

Mar. 1 – Ash Wednesday – Gr. 5 & 6, 7:30pm Mass with parents

Mar. 5 – Sunday, 1pm – Parish Lenten Retreat w Br. Mickey McGrath  
 Mar. 6 – Monday, 4:45pm – Gr. 3&4 teaching Mass in church – parents welcome  
 Mar. 7 – Tuesday, 4:45pm – Gr. 3 & 4 teaching Mass in church – parents welcome  
 Mar. 12 – Sunday, 1pm – 1<sup>st</sup> Eucharist prep event III  
 Mar. 16 – Thursday, 6pm – 1<sup>st</sup> Eucharist prep event III  
 Mar. 30 – Thursday, 7pm – Parish Lenten Reconciliation Service & 1<sup>st</sup> Reconciliation  
 Apr. 1 – Saturday, 6pm – Family Movie Night  
 Apr. 2 – Sunday – LAST EFF PRE-K CLASS  
 Apr. 3 – Monday, 4:45pm – Living Stations  
 Apr. 4 – Tuesday, 4:45pm – Living Stations  
 Apr. 8 – Saturday, 8am – Breakfast with the Bunny  
 Apr. 9 – PALM SUNDAY  
 Apr. 10, 11, 12 – SPRING BREAK – NO EFF CLASSES  
 Apr. 16 – EASTER – CHRIST IS RISEN ALLELUIA!  
 Apr. 22 – Saturday, 6pm – COL Parish Social  
 Apr. 24, 25, 26 – LAST EFF CLASSES OF THE YEAR

*Mary Lou Lympert and I wish you a continued Lenten season of transformation and grace. We are journeying through an austere, yet exciting time of the Church calendar AND ANTICIPATING EASTER JOY!*

**Last but not least enjoy a safe & relaxing summer!!**

*Be healthy, BE HAPPY, BE BLESSED,*

**Ginny Grogan**

*director, Elementary Faith Formation*



*A Lenten Prayer*  
*Jesus, open my heart this Lent*  
*so that I might see more clearly*  
*the obstacles that keep me from you.*  
*Give me the courage to change*  
*in those areas of my life that need change.*  
*May I be a true witness*  
*of how to pray, fast, and share with others –*  
*this Lent and always. Amen.*

