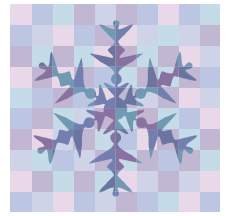


ELEMENTARY FAITH FORMATION NEWS FEBRUARY 2015



Dear Faith Formation Families,

Welcome Ordinary Time, until February 18, Ash Wednesday, when we will enter the season of Lent.

Mother Nature has thrown us a few curves this winter and we are juggling class lessons to cover all catechetical material.

WHEN IT SNOWS.....

Elementary Faith Formation is cancelled if Cherry Hill schools cancel. Elementary Faith Formation is also cancelled if Cherry Hill schools cancel after school activities due to inclement weather.

All families are notified of class cancellation through our participation in the Honeywell Instant Alert System. If you have not registered your preferred choices of notification, your family will receive a message on the home phone line only. If you desire notification via cell phone, work phone, e-mail, or text message, you must register online. Instructions to register with Honeywell were sent home to all families in October. The Honeywell website is: <https://instantalert.honeywell.com>.

All families are encouraged to register. Future notices and reminders will be sent home electronically through the Honeywell system. Need help or access to a computer? Call Mary Lou, 667-2440, ext. 346.

FIRST EUCHARIST

Preparations for the celebration of children eligible to receive First Eucharist are underway. On February 22 & 26, First Communion candidates and their parents will come together for the second prep event of our parish Living in the Light Eucharist. **REMINDER: All 1st Eucharist date choices must be submitted to the EFF office by Feb. 16 to assure your preferred date.**

Parish Retreat Day – Getting Ready for Lent

Are you in need of some time to ponder and pray? Soon we will enter the season of Lent. Christ Our Light Parish Retreat Day will get you ready for the Lenten season. It will be held on Saturday, February 21st. More Retreat Day info will be forthcoming – check the Sunday Bulletin and / or go to the parish website at www.christourlight.net for updates.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Lent begins this year on February 18th, Ash Wednesday. Wednesday Faith Formation classes, grades 5 – 8, will join the parish community in Church for Mass and to be signed with blessed ashes. The children will report to class at the usual time. Parents are encouraged to attend Mass and should wait for their 5th, 6th, 7th, or 8th grader outside the student's classroom. When attendance has been taken, please accompany your children to church and attend Ash Wednesday Mass as a family. **Students will be dismissed from Church.**

EFF CALENDAR UPDATE

Monday, Feb. 9 – Gr. 5 Church Tour

Wednesday, Feb. 11 – Gr. 5 Church Tour

Saturday, Feb. 14 – HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!!

Monday, Feb. 16 – President's Day – NO EFF CLASSES

Wednesday, Feb. 18 – ASH WEDNESDAY – grades 5--8 attend 7:30pm Mass

Saturday, Feb. 21 – Parish Lenten Retreat "The Joy of the Gospel"

Sunday, Feb. 22, 1pm – 2nd First Eucharist prep event

Monday, Feb. 23 – Gr. 4 Parent Visitation – Commandments activity

Monday, Feb. 23 – Gr. 5 Parent Visitation – Rosary making activity

Tuesday, Feb. 24 – Gr. 4 Parent Visitation – Commandments activity

Wednesday, Feb. 25 – Gr. 5 Parent Visitation – Rosary making activity

Thursday, Feb. 26, 6pm – 2nd First Eucharist prep event

REMINDER: Children who did not celebrate 1st Reconciliation on December 14 will do so on Thursday, March 19, 7:00p.m. during the parish Lenten Reconciliation Service .

VBS 2015: This summer's Vacation Bible School (Son Spark Labs) will run from Monday, July 13 – Friday, July 17, 9am – Noon. Stay tuned for registration information.

As always, thank you for your commitment to your children's faith formation and participation at weekly liturgy.

*Blessings,
Ginny*

A VALENTINE'S DAY PRAYER

We are children of a loving God.

We carry God's own love in our hearts.

Let us never be afraid to show friendship, appreciation and love.

God our Creator, bless the love that brings people together
and grows ever stronger in our hearts.

May all the messages that carry the name of your holy Bishop Valentine
be sent in joy and received in delight.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

