



ELEMENTARY FAITH FORMATION NEWS March, 2015



Dear Elementary Faith Formation Families,

Welcome to the season of Lent and the promise of Spring (fingers crossed). 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. We participate in the work of Lent through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. These actions help us grow in our love for God and others. During the weeks leading to Easter, our parish Elementary Faith Formation program will do that work in a variety of ways:

- *All are asked to donate generously to Operation Rice Bowl of Catholic Relief Services.*
- *Students in Grades 1 – 6 received a Lenten activity book.*
- *Grades 1-4 will pray the Living Stations on March 30th and 31st.*

Parish Lenten Reconciliation Service

The Parish Lenten Reconciliation Service will be held on Thursday, March 19th at 7:00 p.m.

All are invited to attend. Children preparing for First Eucharist who did not celebrate Reconciliation in December are expected to attend this service with their families.

SACRAMENT UPDATE

FINAL 1ST EUCHARIST PARENT/CHILD PREP EVENTS ARE SCHEDULED FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 22 AT 1:00P.M. AND AGAIN ON THURSDAY, MARCH 26 AT 6:00P.M.

CHRIST OUR LIGHT WILL CELEBRATE 1ST EUCHARIST ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:

SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 4:30PM MASS, SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 11AM MASS,

SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 4:30PM MASS, SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 11AM MASS.

OUR 1ST 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 have brought Operation Rice Bowl boxes home. Donations are due either at Mass on Palm Sunday or can be returned during class on March 30, 31, April 1.



BREAKFAST WITH THE BUNNY & EASTER EGG HUNT - SATURDAY, MARCH 28



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 5th grade.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Is summer really right around the corner? Here's a sneak peek and information for this summer's VBS. The Theme is "Son Spark Labs" where children will discover that God loves them and that through Jesus they can live as members of God's family and personally experience God's plan for each of us – GOD'S PLAN 4U = JESUS! VBS will run from July 13 – 17, 9:00a.m. – noon. Check future parish bulletins and the COL website for registration info and volunteer opportunities



LOOKING TOWARD SEPTEMBER

Elementary Faith Formation registration forms for the 2015 – 2016 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 13 from the parish website: www.christourlight.net. Download the forms, complete them, and return to the Office of Elementary Faith Formation with the appropriate fee for your family.

Mary Lou Lympert and I wish you a Lenten season of transformation and grace, and I urge you to celebrate weekly Eucharist. Take note of the Lenten environment in our church: purple draping, no flowers, focus on the cross, etc. We are journeying through an austere, yet exciting time of the Church calendar. Help your children experience the tradition of their faith.

Wishing you a good Lenten journey & a glorious Easter!

Be healthy, BE HAPPY, BE BLESSED,

Ginny Grogan

Pastoral Associate, 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.

