



ELEMENTARY FAITH FORMATION NEWS



September/October 2015

Dear Families,

Welcome to a new year of Elementary Faith Formation at Christ Our Light!! Our parish acknowledges and embraces the Diocese of Camden initiative for Lifelong Faith Formation. It is meant to be so much more than what is between the covers of religion textbooks. Our goal is to partner with parents/guardians in the faith formation of their children and to assist them in deepening their relationship with the Lord. Through these combined efforts we hope to realize the development of persons who celebrate and share God's love. We are excited to work with you and your children.

And now some practicalities...

EFF PROGRAM POLICIES

Please review the pink paper included in this folder. It contains guidelines / policies for children and families participating in the Christ Our Light EFF program.

EFF FAMILY HANDBOOK

A comprehensive policy booklet of EFF practices can be accessed from the parish website at www.christourlight.net. Click on Faith Formation, then Elementary Faith Formation, then Family Handbook.

MONDAY AND TUESDAY DROP OFF AND DISMISSAL

If you did not return the blue Safe Dismissal form today please do so before the next class on Sept, 28 & 29. Students are dismissed one of two ways: they are met at their classroom by their ride or they report to the All Purpose Room to meet their carpool parent. **Students are never dismissed to the parking lot to meet their ride home.**

Note: Students enter the school building on arrival via the front doors.

THANK YOU FOR EXITING THE PARKING LOT BY THE EXIT DRIVEWAY ONLY.

HOMEWORK

Homework is assigned every week. There is a homework schedule for the entire year in your child's folder. Please put it in a prominent place. Parents must sign all homework.

CLOW (Children's Liturgy Of The Word)

If you attend the 9:00 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass, your children may already be participating in CLOW. It is uplifting to watch all the eager young faces leave the assembly and head for the Ministry Center to hear the Sunday readings in "kid speak." Children form two groups: those who have celebrated First Eucharist & those who are younger and have not. Registration is not required. Have your children try it - they might like it and in turn look forward to Sunday Mass! Please Note: **CLOW is appropriate for children ages 5 through 5th grade.**

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI FEAST DAY - SATURDAY, OCT. 3

Families are invited to bring their pets to the apron of COL church at 9:30a.m. to have their pets blessed in honor of St. Francis, patron saint of animals. Any and all pets are welcome!!

MITZVAH DAY – OCT. 17 -- *check the parish website & bulletin for service opportunities & info. This year marks the 5th COL Mitzvah Day in tandem with National Make A Difference Day. It's a great way to become involved in community outreach and a wonderful way to connect with your fellow parishioners. Many of the service projects are kid/family friendly!!*

ANNUAL PARISH HALLOWEEN LITURGY-SATURDAY, October 24th, 4:30 p.m. Mass
Children in Halloween costumes and their families are invited to the 4:30 p.m. Mass. A Halloween celebration hosted by the Resurrection Catholic School PTA follows. More information to follow.

ALL SAINTS ASSEMBLIES

Students in grades 1 – 4 are invited to dress as their favorite Saint on Monday, October 26th and Tuesday, October 27th. Check your child's folder during the second week of October for sign up forms.

LIVING IN THE LIGHT SACRAMENT INFORMATION –FIRST RECONCILIATION

SUNDAY, OCT 4, 1 1:00AM MASS – RITE OF ACCEPTANCE FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES WHO WILL PREPARE TO CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENTS OF RECONCILIATION AND EUCHARIST FOR THE FIRST TIME.

THE INITIAL EVENT FOR 1ST RECONCILIATION PREP IS SUNDAY, OCT. 11 AT 1:00P.M.

OR

THURSDAY, OCT. 15, 6P.M.

INFORMATION ABOUT SACRAMENT PREP WILL BE MAILED HOME TO FAMILIES

GOING GREEN

Does the Office for Elementary Faith Formation (EFF) have your family's current email address? Future Newsletters will be sent home electronically as well as reminders for sacrament meetings, etc. The EFF Office email is ggrogan@christourlight.net and mlymper@christourlight.net. Please check your e-mail regularly. For up to date information, log onto the Christ Our Light website at www.christourlight.net.

HONEYWELL INSTANT ALERT

Honeywell Instant Alert is a remarkably efficient way to contact families...

Included in this folder is a letter with information and instructions for families to register and/or update their contact information. The E.F.F. Office intends to use Honeywell as a means of communication with you for updates and reminders as well as emergency information. Honeywell is an effective means of communication only if you input more than your home phone number. Please consider adding cell phone numbers, work phone numbers, and email. This is important – we want all our families to be in the know!!! If you do not have access to a computer or have trouble trying to register, contact the Office of Elementary Faith Formation and we will register you through this office.

Mary Lou Lymper, a staff of volunteer catechists, and I are privileged to partner with you on your family's faith journey. By working together our children will come to know God and continue God's mission in the world.



*Blessings,
Ginny Grogan
Director, Elementary Faith Formation*