



February, 2018

Children's Faith Formation



CHILDREN'S MARDI GRAS CELEBRATION
Sunday, February 11
8:30-11:30 a.m.

Our family-centered event will take place while you are already here with your children for Faith Formation! You'll be able to enjoy a pancake breakfast, visit the craft table, listen to some Nu Awleams music and just enjoy the festive atmosphere of Mardi Gras here at Holy Spirit. Faith Formation classes will have the opportunity to visit the gym for the festivities as part of their Sunday lesson plan on Mardi Gras & Lent. We'll do the traditional throwing of the beads, based upon age level, at this time, as well.

Also, if you would like to help with this event, please contact Deborah. This is a great service project for those in sacramental preparation... Hint! Hint!



With the beginning of Lent on February 14 (Ash Wednesday) we are going to offer the Children's Friday Lenten Program for a two-night event with an introductory evening on Friday, February 16

and a follow-up evening on Friday, March 23 both from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Our Children's Lenten Program provides prayer, scripture and other age-appropriate activities to help children in Grades K through 5th experience the season of Lent and the joy of Easter. Cost of the program is free, but donations are always gratefully accepted to offset the cost of materials and supplies. To help us better prepare, please preregister by Monday, February 12. Registration forms are available at the Community Center front desk. **We will need a minimum of 20 families (not children) to make this program a go!**

Our three-week Theology of the Body Mini-series for Grades 4-6 begins Sunday, February 18 and will conclude on Sunday, March 4. This is a continuation of the material presented at your 2017 Fall Mornings with Mom & Dad sessions. Remember, guests are not allowed during the three-week mini-series unless we have their parent's written permission and if you choose to opt your child out of the mini-series, we must have that in writing and on file in the Faith Formation Office by February 18. You will be given alternative work to complete with your child at home in order to have excused absences. **This is exceptionally important if your child is in sacramental preparation!** Additionally, the diocesan mandated children's safety training, commonly referred to as

VIRTUS, will be conducted on Sunday, March 4 for Grades K-6. Again, if you elect to opt your child out of this training, please complete the required Opt Out Form available at the front desk by February 18. Please contact the Faith Formation Office with any questions.

Perfect Attendance! Congratulations to the 64 students who had Perfect Attendance for the first half of the Faith Formation year! Kudos to both the children AND the parents for getting here every Sunday. Speaking of attendance, for those of you in 1st Grade, 7th Grade or first-year sacramental preparation, **satisfactory attendance for this year is mandatory in order to continue in the sacramental process next year.** That means six (6) absences or less. Currently, some children are borderline in their attendance and others have now exceeded our attendance policy requirements. Please be aware that attendance records will be verified at the time of registration for next year so make sure your children are in class the remainder of the year. As always, you can contact the office with any questions or concerns regarding your child's attendance or issues that may have or may be effecting their ability to be here.

A huge thank you to everyone who came out and enjoyed WACKY WAFFLE Sunday! Whether you helped in the kitchen, helped serve food/drinks or just helped yourself to a yummy plate of wacky waffles, we're so grateful you did! We are still tallying up the donations, so those results are forthcoming. The Faith Formation/RCIA Commission truly appreciates everyone's time and generosity in supporting this event and can't wait to put our cordless vacuum cleaners to good use!



CATECHIST BIRTHDAY CORNER—February, 2018

- Tammie Marceleno—February 1
- Alejandra Balbuena—February 2
- Joana Ndunduma—February 4
- Erin Fifield—February 7
- Judy Smith—February 7
- Jordan Lyons—February 10
- Carmen Salter—February 11
- Grace Aguirre—February 14
- Joseph Ball—February 14
- Amanda Kowal—February 15
- Monica Salas—February 17
- Yvette Gonzales—February 18
- Jessica Huckeba—February 18
- Leslie Olsovsky—February 19
- Serena Newton—February 26
- Ana Maria Garza—February 27
- Cecilia Ciprian—February 29