

Religious Ed. Office
Mon. – Fri. 10:00am – 4:00pm
Phone: 717-235-2156, exts. 225 & 232
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Religious Education

March 2024



The Lenten season began on Wednesday, February 14th with the distribution of Ashes reminding us of our need to repent and believe in the Gospel. During the next few weeks of Lent, your child along with our parish family, those in our RCIC and RCIA who are preparing to receive the Sacraments of Initiation into full communion, along with the entire Church throughout the world will be entering into a more intentional and spiritual journey in preparation for the great Feast of the Resurrection of the Lord. Through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving may our faith grow stronger by increasing our love for God and others, stretching our hearts to be more charitable, and making our celebration of Easter more meaningful.

In addition to receiving a personal Lenten reflection aid, each student was asked to accept a "Lenten Sacrifice Box" to be used on a weekly basis. The children should bring their sacrifice offerings to class each week. Please help your child to be creative as to how they will meaningfully translate their sacrifices into monetary offerings. These offerings will be used to assist our Parish Outreach Programs. By participating, the children assist as good stewards of God's gifts, and blessings. They join with our entire Parish Community in furthering the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ.



"Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these brothers of mine, you did for me." (Mt 25:40)

Spring Fundraisers to benefit St. John's Religious Education and Elementary School

Thank you for supporting St. John's by participating in our **Butter Braid Fundraiser**. Butter Braids orders will be ready for pickup on Wednesday, March 20th. Please keep in mind that the Butter Braids will be frozen when they arrive and are perishable. Your prompt pickup would be gratefully appreciated as we do not have ample freezer space for storage...Thank you also for assisting us in preparing our Religious Ed "Gardening Basket" for our **Spring On-Line Auction**.

Religious Education Registration For the 2024-2025 School Year

Registration Forms will be electronically mailed to all registered families in early March. It is our hope that all forms will be returned by June 1st. Forms will also be available on St. John's Web Site. If you do not receive a form or have difficulty with the web site, please call the Rel. Ed. Office at 717- 235-2156, ext. 225. **Catechist Teams are also needed per grade level.** If you can assist or if you know someone who loves their Faith and would like to assist as a Catechist, Aide, Teen Assistant etc. please take the time to personally invite them to serve with us in passing on the Faith to our Youth. Lots of Volunteers are needed to assist with the ministry of Religious Ed.

Good Shepherd Catechesis Formation Classes:

St. John's is offering a series of Level I Training for interested Adults who wish to assist with Good Shepherd classes in the Fall. This series begins on June 20-21 here at St. John's. If interested, please call the Rel. Ed Office. We're pleased to be able to offer this Faith Formation Catechesis to all our 3 Year Olds through Grade 2 here at St. John's and we are in need of Aides to assist as we do so.

Take- out Lenten Dinners

The Knights of Columbus will be providing Lenten meals on March 8th, and March 22nd from 4pm-7pm at the Capitani Social Hall. Menu: Service is Dine-In or Take-Out.

Spring Auction and Dinner

We are happy to announce there will be an in-person Spring Auction and Dinner on Saturday, March 16th at 6:00 PM in the Fr. Capitani Social Hall. The theme will be "Around the World". Please visit: <http://www.tinyurl.com/sjaroundtheworldtickets> to order tickets.

Sacrament Prep Retreat Days

Grade 7-8 Confirmation Retreat Day Sat. March 2nd 10:00 am
For Candidates and Sponsor/Parent
Grade 1 Retreat Day -Sat. Mar. 26th 9:30am-12:00
For Students
Grade 2 Retreat Day - Sat. April 22nd 8:30am – 2:00
For Students only

Sacrament Celebration Dates:

RCIA/RCIC Easter Vigil Sat. March 30th
Confirmation Sat. April 6th 11:00am
First Communion Sat. April 27th 11:00am

Lenten Services

- **Stations of the Cross** will be prayed Every Friday evening during Lent—at 7:00pm
- **Lenten Penance Services- for students**
Wed. and Thurs. March 13-14
- **Parish Lenten Penance Service**
Tues. Mar. 26th 7:00

Upcoming Events

Mar. 2nd – Gr 7 & Gr 8 Retreat Day 10:00 – 5:00
Mar. 8th – Lenten Dinner
Mar. 10th – Grade 2 Family Prayer #5, 12:15 MC
Mar. 16th – Grade 1 Retreat Day 9:30-12:00
Mar. 16th – SJB Dinner & Auction 6:00 PM, Social Hall
Mar. 17th – St. Patrick's Day -Patron of our Diocese
Mar. 19th – Feast of St. Joseph
Mar. 22nd – Lenten Dinner
Mar. 24th – Palm Sunday – HOLY WEEK
Mar. 30th – Easter Vigil
Mar. 31st – Easter Sunday

