

# FAMILY & TEEN FAITH QUARTERLY

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

MARCH 2016



## The Son has risen; the tomb is empty!

### Easter calls us to

- 50 Days of rejoicing
- Revel in goodness
- New life in abundance
- Hope restored
- Heartaches healed
- Truth proclaimed
- Joy renewed
- Divine mercy unfurled

#### *Classical Christian Literature*

Savor for the first time or yet again St. John Chrysostom's Easter homily **The Easter Paschal Homily of Saint John Chrysostom Resurrection ...** This homily is read in most Orthodox Christian Churches on Easter. Geared to teens and adults.

#### What does it mean to be an Easter People?

- ❖ To see God in all things.
- ❖ To sense a compassionate presence in action
- ❖ To commit to a way of life
- ❖ To long for a fulfilled and authentic life

Animated story of Jesus' Resurrection (3:06 min.) available on YouTube @ <http://youtu.be/wq-NhRUJejo> Presented by ZonderKids Beginners

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## HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE

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## CALLING ALL FAMILY & TEEN FAITH PARENTS, CATECHISTS & STUDENTS

Dr. Peg Hanrahan, Director of Family & Teen Faith will be conducting several **listening sessions** with catechists, parents and students. The purpose of these sessions is to hear your recommendations for how to improve and expand our ministry to children, teens and families, as well as gaining consensus for changes many of you have already expressed an interest in seeing for the coming years. **Your input is ESSENTIAL** as we create one, three and five year plans for Family & Teen Faith (all of which will be made available on the parish website).

The dates, times and locations for the listening sessions will be as follows:

### CATECHISTS

- |              |                               |
|--------------|-------------------------------|
| Grades 1-6   | 3/28 - MON 7-8:30 pm Rectory  |
|              | 4/7 - THURS 7-8:30 pm Rectory |
| FLAME 1 & 2  | 4/3 - SUN 2-3:45 pm Rectory   |
| IGNITE 1 & 2 | 4/17 - SUN 2-3:45 pm Rectory  |

### PARENTS

- |            |                               |
|------------|-------------------------------|
| Grades 1-6 | 4/10 - SUN 10:30-12 Cafeteria |
|            | 4/10 - SUN 5:30-7 pm Rectory  |
| FLAME      | 4/3 - SUN 5:30-7 pm Rectory   |
| IGNITE     | 4/17 - SUN 5:30-7 pm Rectory  |

### TEENS & PEER MINISTERS

- |        |                               |
|--------|-------------------------------|
| FLAME  | 4/6 - WED 6:30-8 pm Teen Rm.  |
| IGNITE | 4/20 - WED 6:30-8 pm Teen Rm. |



**To RSVP go to the parish website** and click on the contact person's email included with the list of sessions.

Dr. Peg will also gather feedback from our students in Grades 1-6 at the Large Group Sessions in April.

Spirituality flows from faith. Isaiah tells us, "With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation." (Is.12:3). Jesus says to us, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink" (John 7:37). Our God guides and leads us beside springs of water (Is 49:10).

**Our time in the desert is over.** The precious relationship each of us has with Father, Son and Spirit through Baptism is growing. The blessings of life and light flow over, around and through us refreshing our souls, renewing the world.

It takes practice to be people who believe in the promise of the Risen Christ – life eternal. We have been called and chosen to exercise our spirits as we do our minds and bodies. The spiritual life grows when we discipline ourselves through spiritual practices. In Lent our focus was on the spiritual practices of prayer, fasting and alms giving. Now we take up the spiritual practices of resurrection.

Read the following list of spiritual practices. Choose one or two you will focus on from now until the Feast of Pentecost. Maybe you want to do one as a couple/family and then choose another for yourself. Let your children each choose one. Share with each other the practice you have chosen to do so you can encourage each other. Compliment your children or your parents when **'you catch them practicing their resurrection faith'**. Make time each day or every other day to share with each other how being an Easter disciple is going for you.

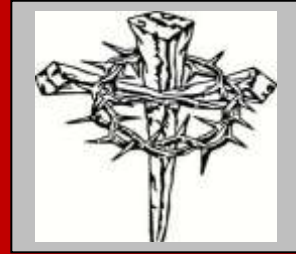
- **Recognize** the constant renewal of life
- **Wonder** and admire God's creation
- **Take note** of all growing things
- **Live** in the present moment
- **Be mindful** of what you do
- **Cultivate** the art of making connections
- **Pray** for others every day
- **Trust** in God's abiding love for you
- **Forgive** someone
- **Practice** gratitude
- **Welcome** guests with warmth and joy
- **Delight** in new ideas
- **Find** a place to be quiet each day for a few minutes
- **Do** something for yourself
- **Be** a peacemaker
- **Be** kind
- **Be** creative
- **Make** justice a habit

Watch and discuss the **Hungarian Shadow Theatre Group's *Attraction*** - a moving performance about the resurrection (6:06 min.).

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EAzYZ-E4I30>

Appropriate for the whole family.

## PASSION PLAY 2016 Whom Shall I fear?



**Good Friday**  
**March 25**  
**9am, Noon, 3pm, and 7:30pm**

### Holy Family Parish Celebrates 15th Anniversary of Teen Passion Play

Ms. Julia Dirkes-Jacks, a senior at Fremd High School in Palatine, Illinois wrote the script and directed this year's production of the Passion Play. "I loved participating in the Passion Play as a cast member and this year I felt that God blessed me with many great experiences in writing and directing which seemed like the best way I could serve the ministry and the parish. Though some of the cast have experience in theater, a lot of them are only in the Passion Play. Our cast includes a varsity baseball player, math team champ, scouts and a gymnast- how cool that they come and perform the Holy Week story! It's really all about their faith for these kids."

Father Terry, pastor of Holy Family Parish commented on the production, "My pride in them [our teens] always overflows as we entrust much of this somber day to these young people. They lead us in prayer so powerfully, indeed in a way that few parishes do."

**Holy Family Mission Trip**

**\* Pasta Palooza \***

**Saturday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**6:30pm**

**Only \$15**

**All you can eat Pasta Dinner**  
prepared by the Knights of Columbus

**Tickets available at the Front Desk**

**REGISTER NOW!**



## **Family & Teen Faith Parents**

**Enrollment for Faith and Teen Faith Classes for the 2016-2017 school year begins April 1.**

To do so choose one of the following options:

1. **Fast track forms** will be sent home on April 3 with students. Parents will need to check to make sure the information is correct and return the form to that child's catechist on April 10 or 17 with a \$100.00 deposit.
2. Parents can **enroll online** and submit their form. Go to [www.holyfamily.org](http://www.holyfamily.org)  
Registration will be complete upon payment of the \$100.00 deposit.

### **For new students enrollment**

1. **Forms** are available in the Narthex and in the Faith Office. Parents are asked to pick one up, fill out the form and return it to the Main Parish Office or the Faith Office
2. **Register on line** at [www.holyfamilyparish.org](http://www.holyfamilyparish.org) . \$100.00 deposit is required to complete registration.

### **Tuition will remain the same for 2016-17**

- 1 student \$ 300
- 2 students \$ 375
- 3 or more students \$425
- Non-Parishioner tuition Rate is \$450 per child
- Faith on Fire \$50.00 per teen

### **Sacramental Fees for 2016-17**

First Eucharist, Reconciliation and Confirmation will remain the same for 2016-17

The fee for the FLAME 1 Retreat will remain the same for 2016-17 (\$120.00)

**A \$25.00 fee for the FLAME 2 Retreat has been added**

A \$75.00 per student fee has been added for RCIC (RCIC candidates are not billed for any additional sacramental fees).

### **Registration Fee: \$100.00 per family (non-refundable)**

**The Registration Fee is not in addition to tuition and fees,** it will be applied to the final bill. Families wishing to pay their total bill at the time of registration are welcome to do so. Your current balance must be paid in full in order to register for the coming year. If this is not possible at this time please contact Dr. Peg to make alternative

## **Preparing our children to receive the Sacraments**



Preparing children to receive the sacraments of First Eucharist and Reconciliation at Holy Family is done in collaboration with Family Faith and Holy Family Catholic Academy. The sacramental preparation sessions are done outside of and in addition to class time. **Why?**

- We want to have parents integrally involved in the sacramental life of their child as teachers and mentors.
- We want to foster a spirit of community and cooperation between the families of both the Family Faith program and the Academy.

### **SACRAMENTAL POLICIES**

1. **Children who are requesting to prepare to receive a sacrament must have at least two years of formal religious education prior to the reception of the sacrament.** This means that if parents wish to have their child receive First Eucharist in the spring of second grade they must have their child enrolled by the fall of first grade.

#### **Grace period granted for 2016-17**

Because this is a new policy for Holy Family there will be one year's grace period. All children wishing to receive First Reconciliation and First Eucharist in the spring of 2017 **must be registered and present on the first day of class.**

2. **Children with significant gaps in their formal religious education will be asked to do additional study to make up for the years they missed work.**

**Why?** Religious education like all educational endeavors builds upon the mastery of foundational concepts and the development of certain skill sets. When substantive gaps exist in a child/teen's learning it hampers their ability to understand new and more complex concepts and develop the skills needed to apply what they learn.

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## Preparing our Children for Sacraments (continued from page 3)

3. **Children of school age who come to us to prepare to be baptized or are in grades 3-8 and wish to complete their preparation for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist** will need to attend both Faith or Academy classes **and** participate in the RCIC process.

The **Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIC)** at Holy Family is open to all parishioners who are in need of preparation for these Sacraments and for reception into the Roman Catholic Church. The sacraments of initiation are celebrated during the Easter Season. Whether your family

- is just entering the church,
- is returning after time away,
- have decided as a family to delay the children's sacramental preparation,
- or any other circumstance

you are welcome. Regular attendance at mass, participation in the seven (7) Christian initiation sessions with a parent(s) held on Sunday at Noon as well as involvement in a formal religious education class at grade level, is required of children in the process of Christian Initiation. If you are interested or have questions contact Dr. Peg Hanrahan at [phanrahan@holyfamilyparish.org](mailto:phanrahan@holyfamilyparish.org).

The RCIC process is designed as a family process. All family members are invited to attend these sessions but at least one parent is expected to attend the RCIC sessions with their child/ren.

4. If a child was baptized in another Christian Church (i.e. Lutheran, Episcopalian...) and now wishes to receive First Eucharist the child and the parents will be asked to meet with Dr. Hanrahan. The child will also be asked to make a Profession of Faith at one of the weekend liturgies. **This is a matter of canon law.**



## Confirmation



**Preparing for Confirmation** here at Holy Family is usually done during the first two years of high school. Candidates are expected to

- attend FLAME 1 and FLAME 2 classes
- make a retreat each year, which focuses on Confirmation,
- complete 20 hours of community service both Freshmen and Sophomore year
- attend one of the Pizza with the Pastor events.

**Students attending Catholic High Schools** are invited to receive the sacrament of Confirmation in the spring of their sophomore year. They are welcome, but not required to join a FLAME group. We ask these students to

- complete 20 hours of community service both Freshmen and Sophomore year (they can do their service through the offerings at their high school)
- attend one of Pizza with Pastor events
- attend the FLAME 2 retreat here at Holy Family

**Juniors and seniors who attend a public high school and have not been confirmed** are invited to do so. We ask that they

- attend one of the KAIROS retreats,
- complete at least 25 hours of community service the year of Confirmation
- meet with one of the Teen Faith staff three times
- attend one of the Pizza with the Pastor events.

If you have any questions about Confirmation contact Liz Tomal at [etomal@holyfamilyparish.org](mailto:etomal@holyfamilyparish.org).

## LENTEN PRAYER FESTIVAL EARNS RAVE REVIEWS

We had several kids, parents and catechists weigh in on the Lenten Prayer Festival. Here's a sampling of their comments.

**"The festival was wonderful. The kids really liked it and I did too! Thanks for all your efforts. That's a repeat!!!"**

Carole, 6<sup>th</sup> grade Catechist

**"All the kids enjoyed it very much."**

Parent Volunteer

**"Thx so much for today!! My kids are so proud of their work! My son even said his favorite part was the meditation (surprise for a 1st grader!!)"**

Parent Volunteer

**"This was awesome! Are we going to do it next week too?"**

4<sup>th</sup> grader

## IMPORTANT CLARIFICATION

**High School juniors and seniors who have not been confirmed** are more than welcome to participate in Faith on Fire, Kairos, become a peer minister for IGNITE or a catechist aide in Adam's Apple or in grades 1-6, participate in all Youth Ministry events - the Passion Play, Teen Band and Choir, the annual Mission Trip etc.

**Don't count yourself out! We haven't!**



# SPIRIT CAMP 2016

## JOSEPH'S JOURNEY FROM PRISON TO PALACE

**JUNE 20-24**  
**\$30.00/child**

**REGISTRATION BEGINS**  
**APRIL 1, 2016**

## Explore Egypt with Joseph!

Send your kids on the journey of a lifetime where the Bible comes to life right before their eyes! Check out the sounds and sights of this marvelous adventure on the YouTube link below.

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=7wSZFt4xzlK](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7wSZFt4xzlK)

**PARENTS** – don't let the kids have all the fun, come along with us. There are so many ways you can join in the fun. Interested? Contact: [lferlita@holyfamilyparish.org](mailto:lferlita@holyfamilyparish.org)

**Dads we especially need help building our Egyptian sets**

**IGNITE** – here's your chance to be Peer Ministers! Help out with classes, crafts, games, science experiments, teaching, music, drama, snacks, set building, decorating...

**TEENS** – this is one service project you won't want to pass up. You can earn all your service hours for FLAME and you can even use them for your high school's service requirement.



To our grade 1-6 catechists, parent volunteers and students for their outstanding work at our first-ever

### KidS' prayer Festival.

Keep a lookout for the amazing **Mercy Poles** the kids created which will be going up around the campus during the Easter season.

To the cast and crew for their moving and reverent **LIVING STATIONS Service**. Each of our 6th, 7th, and 8th grade classes wrote one of the reflections used for the Stations that evening. Special thanks to the **IGNITE** students who made up the cast, **Hannah Cunningham**, Student Director, **Kristen Barnd** and **Jackson Dirnberger**, Assistant Student Directors, **Jimmy Schiffer**, accompanist and **Eldar Shanahan**, technical assistant. **We couldn't be more proud of you.**

To **Mrs. Marturano and her 4<sup>th</sup> graders** for organizing our Lenten Sock Drive. Great work! Hats off to all who contributed to the sock drive.

To all our Faith Families who contributed to our Lenten Service Project for the homeless. **If your kids didn't turn in their KIDS CAN HELP TOO box, there is still time.** Parents remember that for grades 1-6 there is a prize on the line for the class that collected the most money. **Make sure your family name is on the box and the grades your kids are in.** The total amount will be divided equally between your kid's classrooms for the sake of the contest. All of the money collected goes to **JOURNEYS THE ROAD HOME**, a local agency that provides shelter and services to those whom are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless right in our own community. Our last call for boxes will be the week of April 10<sup>th</sup>.

To Liz Tomal, the **IGNITE** catechists, peer ministers and students for making our first ever **COLOR WARS** a huge success. Fun is definitely on the move at HF!

**NEW!  
IMPROVED!**  
**IGNITE 2  
RETREAT**  
**ON 4/10  
1-5 PM**

**2016**

**MISSION TRIP**

**The HF Summer Mission Trip  
is FULL!**

Help our 40 teens defray the cost of the trip by attending Pasta Palooza (4/2), getting a lollipop on 5/21-22 or getting your car washed on 6/12.

**SACRAMENTAL  
CELEBRATIONS**

**Confirmation**  
May 1 at 1:30 pm

**First Communion**  
May 7 & 14 10:30 am; May 14 at 5 pm;  
May 15 at 9 & 11 am

**FAMILY & TEEN FAITH  
CALENDAR FOR  
APRIL 2016**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					Enrollment for 2016-17 Faith Classes Begins <sup>1</sup>	Pasta Palooza 6:30pm <sup>2</sup>
*Faith Classes <input type="checkbox"/> Listening Sessions <sup>3</sup>			*Faith Classes <input type="checkbox"/> Listening Sessions <sup>6</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> Listening Session <sup>7</sup>		First Eucharist Prep 2:30-6pm <sup>9</sup>
	*Faith Classes Last day to turn in Lenten boxes <input type="checkbox"/> Listening Session <sup>11</sup>		*Faith Classes KAIROS 4 <sup>th</sup> Day Mtg. <sup>13</sup>			
LAST *Faith Class <input type="checkbox"/> Listening Sessions <sup>17</sup>			LAST *Faith Class <input type="checkbox"/> Listening Session <sup>20</sup>			
Catechist Mass (9 am) & Breakfast <sup>24</sup>	Vicariate Teen Recognition Banquet <sup>25</sup>		Confirmation Rehearsal 7-8:30pm <sup>27</sup>			

**\*Class Times**

- Adam's Apple 9am & 11am
- 1-6 – 10:30-12:00
- IGNITE 5:30-7:00 pm
- FLAME 5:30-7:00 pm

**Listening Sessions**

See article on page 1 for time & place

**Confirmation Rehearsal** is for the candidate & sponsor (or parent)





*“Tolerance is respect, acceptance and appreciation of the rich diversity of our world's cultures, our forms of expression and ways of being human. Tolerance is harmony in difference.”*

## For Parents Only - Teaching Tolerance



Given the heated political rhetoric in this election cycle, the concern over increasing terrorist threats (especially in light of the attacks in Paris, San Bernadino and Brussels), the ongoing struggles for racial justice in our society and a rise in religious based intolerance, it seemed a good time to raise the issue of how we teach tolerance.

**Tolerance?!** I want children to be more than tolerant of others. Yet doing a little research I came upon a definition for tolerance I found compelling. It came from **UNESCO** (the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization).

**“Tolerance is respect, acceptance and appreciation of the rich diversity of our world's cultures, our forms of expression and ways of being human. Tolerance is harmony in difference.”**

I loved this definition. Respect, acceptance and appreciation of diversity are qualities I want to foster in every child, teen and adult I meet – including myself! For me, respect is a bedrock value, essential to all healthy and life-giving interactions. Yet UNESCO’s definition for tolerance does not stop there; it begins there. To be a truly tolerant person one must move on to acceptance and finally appreciation. Perhaps tolerance is a richer, more inclusive value than one might think at first glance.

In looking for an on-line resource that might be helpful to families wanting to raise respectful, accepting and appreciative children/teens, I came upon the **Southern Poverty Law Center’s** project *‘Teaching Tolerance’* ([www.teachingtolerance.org](http://www.teachingtolerance.org)). The Teaching Tolerance Project reminds adults that;

1. Prejudice, bias, and hate, as well as an appreciation for diversity, are learned.
2. No matter how good we are, how hard we work at appreciating the wisdom of those who are different, we all carry prejudice and biases, what is now referred to as *unconscious bias*.
3. The more we work at appreciating diversity, the less obvious, and so the more insidious, our prejudice and biases can become.

Whether we like it or not, as adults **we teach by example**. Our facial expressions and body language can betray our words. A careless phrase or our inability or unwillingness to challenge prejudiced or biased words and/or behavior in a family setting, with friends, in the neighborhood, yes even at Church, does harm, undermining the constructive messages we speak to our children/teens. Our fear of the stranger and discomfort with the unfamiliar can lead to feelings of apprehension, and children sense it. Our desire to hold on to cultural values and traditions that were influential in shaping our personal identities can make us skeptical of diversity as a blessing or gift. Yet our children are growing up in an increasingly diverse world. Generation Z are the most connected, well-educated and sophisticated generation the world has ever seen. They see themselves as global citizens. Yet for all their awareness of, and interest in the world they are also the most sheltered generation. The youngest in the gen Z cohort are very comfortable with significant parental involvement in their safety indeed they have come to expect it. So how do we both expose them to diversity and keep them safe at the same time?

In a wonderful book, *The New Religious Intolerance: Overcoming the Politics of Fear in an Anxious Age* (Harvard University Press, 2012) Martha C. Nussbaum encourages us to expand our capacity for empathetic imagination by cultivating curiosity, seeking friendship across religious lines (and I would add cultural, racial and socio-economic), and establishing a consistent ethic of decency and civility”. Decency, for me, has a lot to do with mercy – a spiritual value sadly lacking in our world. The Family and Teen Faith staff will work with you, to find ways to celebrate diversity and eradicate discrimination. If you have an idea of how we might do that better, let us know.

Dr. Peg Hawrahan