

## **Faith Formation & Youth Ministry 2016 April Report**

*Jodi is back! YAY!*

### **Faith Formation & Youth Ministry Programs**

March 6&7 intergenerational session went well with collaboration from ISM, Music, Liturgy, Social Ministry and Faith Formation. We also had a number of people from Bible Study groups come help lead small group discussions with families as part of this intergenerational experience.

The next intergenerational session will be April 10&11. There will be family based stations exploring Eucharist and Resurrection. Fr Paul will be doing a “walk through the Mass” as one of the stations. We will also be having a parish Easter egg hunt and activities on Sunday.

#### **Catechist formation**

We continue to meet with our current catechists and are always looking to recruit new catechists. At these meetings we are discussing and exploring what it means to be a disciple, the tasks of being a catechist, and what our vision is for Faith Formation and Youth Ministry at St. Kateri.

Next fall we hope to launch a catechist formation process to fully educate, train, and empower our catechists in a discipleship model of formation. All staff, council members, and other volunteer/ministry leaders will be invited to join us for these gatherings to nourish their faith. More info coming.

#### **Open house registration**

One of our goals is to meet our families where they are at. In order to do this, we have to know our families. In our large parish, in our large program, this is not an easy task. To help facilitate this process, we are starting a pilot open house registration process for Faith Formation. At the end of our sessions on April 24/25 and May 1/2, and also at set times each week throughout the summer, we will hold an open house style registration where we will meet with our families. Part of this meeting will be a family spiritual assessment, which will help us place the children in appropriate learning environments and provide family/parent resources to help each family grow in their faith and relationship with Christ. We will be seeking the help of volunteers for the open house registration (CASE and other training, provided by us, is needed).

#### **Post Cana – Post Baptismal Prep**

See below under young adult

### **Sacraments**

**Confirmation** preparation is underway. We have 47 youth in the second year of preparation with **April 20, 2016 celebration**; and 45 youth in the first year of preparation.

**First Eucharist (Communion)** preparation continues. 79 youth mostly grade 2 (with a few 3-5 grade). It includes a series of workshops for parents and children to help the families work together at home on the material. All youth are concurrently enrolled in Faith Formation or Catholic School. We also have a group of youth who are receiving intensive catechesis since they have been out of faith formation for a few years who will also be making their First Communion. Celebrations will occur at regular weekend liturgies at the end of April and beginning of May.

**RCIA**—at this Saturday’s Vigil, we will welcome 2 Elect and 3 Candidates into Full Communion with the Church. They have been gathering throughout this past school year and eagerly await this celebration. They will continue to meet in April and possibly May to reflect on their initiation and continue to grow. We also continue to meet with individuals who are possibly interested for RCIA next year.

### **Post Cana – Post Baptismal Prep**

See below under young adult

### **Adult Formation**

The Lenten series, “Why do bad things happen to good people?” with Joe Kelly was successful. Each of the four nights approximately 75-85 people attended. Over the course of the series, over 100 people attended. Joe led the group through the biblical and theological concept of creation, suffering, and the human condition. Many who attended requested more opportunities in the future. We will be looking to have another adult ed. series in the near future. Jodi will be gathering some adults and consult with Joe Kelly about an adult curriculum and possible speakers to invite.

Around the table groups continue to meet. More groups are always able to form. This faith sharing opportunity helps individuals grow in relationship with Christ and with our fellow parish family members. Spread the word!

**Earth Day Education and Action: GreenFaith – 10:30-12:30pm Wed April 27 – St Cecilia Newcomb Friendship Center.** We are offering a program for Parish Staff, Parish Councils, and other committee members. Other Christian churches are invited to attend as well. (There will be other times and places in the Diocese. They were hoping to have multiple times and places for this Earth Day event to accommodate various schedules.) Below is info from Ruth Marchetti from the Catholic Family Center who would be facilitating.

Here’s a link to the GreenFaith webinars on reducing the carbon footprint of facilities: <http://www.greenfaith.org/success-stories/energy-training-webinar-series> if you’d like to preview them.

I believe that many faith communities would like to be more environmentally-friendly, but simply don’t know where to begin. The most important part of the facilities’ plan in the webinar is establishing an energy team and embracing and publicizing a resolution. Imagine what might happen if faith communities all over Monroe County take that on – what a great public example it would be.

## **Youth Ministry**

**Youth Ministry CORE Team**– A long term plan/strategy is starting to take shape. Pete Nowak gathered a great turnout of youth and adults to take next steps in planning for youth programs. They focused on getting a small group gathered and two of teens (Molly Ramich and Madeline Fasano) were going to make some plans. We are still looking for adults and teens to serve on the CORE planning team – next meeting in May. Please check out this survey to see some of the upcoming youth ministry events - <http://survey.constantcontact.com/survey/a07ecfr1fxhim3j6j5q/start>

See all upcoming events - <http://files.ctctcdn.com/862e4796401/05c5be95-3f46-451b-b80f-40d45b7dcfba.pdf?ver=1458655472000>

## **Young Adult**

**Flour City Alpha – Summer Series** – This program is about meeting people where they are, engaging them in conversations about life’s important questions, introducing them to the person of Jesus, and ultimately helping them build a relationship with Jesus, one another and the Catholic Church. **Though we are targeting young adults, all are welcome to attend. We also need people to help facilitate small group discussion. check out <https://www.facebook.com/flourcityalpha/>**

Thursdays 6:30-8pm: June 9, June 23, July 7, July 21, August 4, August 18 at Irondequoit Library

### **Small Group Gathering**

Some of our young adults will be leading a weekly Prayer (Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament) and faith sharing group during the summer. Sunday nights probably 7-9pm – start date TBA.

### **Post Cana – Post Baptismal Prep**

A key time in the faith life of young adults is the time when they are newly married and when they are new parents. We are working in faith formation, and collaboratively with other staff and volunteers to help support young adults at these times and connect with them spiritually. More info coming.