



February 7, 2018

Lent is almost upon us! Attached to this letter is a Lenten booklet developed by your very own catechists and catechists throughout Dubuque. It contains different Lenten activities and in which you can participate. We have so much to be grateful for, especially God's love and mercy. Let's work this Lent and this year on showing God's mercy and love to others. Booklets are due April 4, 2018. There is also a half sheet which has Lenten movies that are available at the Archdiocesan Resource Center (1229 Mount Loretta Ave.) They're a great way to reflect and prepare ourselves during Lent!

Please remember that Ash Wednesday is February 14. Since school conferences are the same night we will not have Religious Education that night though it was originally on the calendar. I am including Mass times if your family would like to attend an Ash Wednesday Mass.

- St. Anthony – 7:45 AM, 9:00 AM, 5:15 PM
- Nativity – 6:30 AM, 12:00 PM, 5:30 PM

Also, a reminder that on **February 28**, K-1 will have a regular Religious Education session, while students and their families in grades 2-H.S. will attend the **Lenten Family Reconciliation night**. For those students in grades 2-H.S. please have your children check in between 6:15-6:25 in O'Malley Hall. Students are to sit with their parents/guardians in the church. The Reconciliation service will start at 6:30.

As you know, the Office for the Protection of Children of the Archdiocese of Dubuque provides materials for parents/guardians as a means of education regarding the issues and topics related to the abuse of children. In order to make this easily accessible to you, we invite you to access the VIRTUS website at <http://www.virtusonline.org> and read the last article of this school year on the home page. This month's news note is also on the St. Anthony's RE website at <http://www.stanthony-dubuque.org/Religious-Education->. If you do not have access to the internet, you can request copies of articles from the faith formation office. It is our sincere hope that by partnering together we can continually provide the safest possible environment for all our young people to grow into healthy, Christ-filled adults. Additional resources can be found at the VIRTUS website at <http://www.virtusonline.org>.

Lastly, in May your catechists and catechists throughout Dubuque will be packaging meals for Take Away Hunger (more information on Take Away Hunger at <https://www.takeawayhunger.com/>). To do this, the parishes of Dubuque need to raise \$1,000. **Please help put your catechists to work that night by having your students bring in coins throughout Lent** so we can purchase the food needed to package the meals.

As we close Ordinary Time and enter into the season of Lent, we pray that God blesses our families and helps us to draw ever closer to him

God bless,

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