



Lent

Faith Formation Updates

March-April 2019

Enlisting Witnesses for Jesus Christ



Dear St. John's Family,

During Lent, many of our children will have classroom opportunities to visit the church. As they cross the threshold and enter the sanctuary, the threshold represents our entering into the new life of Christ. The "visible church is the symbol of the Father's house toward which the People of God is journeying and where the Father 'will wipe away every tear from their eyes'" (Rev. 21:4, CCC 1186)

We invite you to **come** to daily and week-end Mass over spring break, **come** to Adoration on Thursday, **come** to Stations of the Cross on Friday, **come** to Reconciliation on Saturday **and bring your children**. St. John's Catholic Church is open and welcoming to all; we strive to be a place where anyone can enter and feel the love of Christ present.

Blessings,

Kelly Howard -Faith Formation Director

Upcoming Events for K-8

Mar. 13– K-8 Class

Mar. 20– No Class Spring Break

Mar. 27– K-8 Class,

Adult presentation: *Walk in the Footprints of God (5 or 6:30)*

Mar. 31-First Eucharist Parent/Child

Retreat after Mass, 10:30-12:30

Apr. 3-K-8 Class,

Adult Presentation: *What will my child do at Adoration? (5 or 6:30)*

Apr. 10-K-8 Class, **Adoration available from 5:00 to 8:00 pm**

Apr. 17-No Class, Holy Week, Family Faith

Night: Shadow Stations at 7:30

Apr. 18-K-8 Class

Apr. 24-K-8 Class

May 1-K-8 Class, First Communion Rehearsal during child's session time

May 5-First Communion Sunday Mass at 11:30 All are welcome!

May 8–Family Faith Night: 6:00 pm Mass and May Crowning followed by a Hot Dog Picnic. All are welcome!

June 23-27-Save the Date: VBS

Come and Adore Christ who remains with us in the Blessed Sacrament.



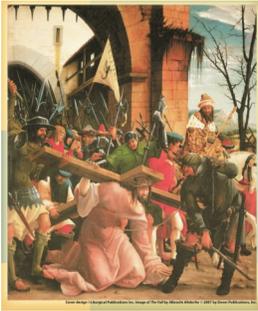
Each faith formation class will have the opportunity to spend time with Jesus through Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Parents are invited on April 3rd for a short presentation to learn what this means. All are encouraged to spend a Holy Hour with Christ on April 10th between 5-8.

Is your child going to **Catholic Youth Camp** this summer? We still have coupon codes available so you can receive a \$150.00 discount off the cost of attending CYC. Call the office today: 515-993-4482

Father Remi guides the Kindergarten Class on their Church Visit



A Special Wednesday Night Event for Adults



On Wednesday March 27th, come with Erin Merschman and *Walk in the Footprints of God*. She will share pictures and stories of her pilgrimage to the Holy Land. We will have two presentation times in the Parish Hall: 5:00-6:00 and 6:30-7:30. **All** St. John's parishioners are invited to attend. *If you*

are looking for a way to enrich your prayer life during Lent, don't miss this opportunity.

Family Faith Night—Save the Date

The entire parish is invited to pray the Stations of the Cross on **Wednesday April 17th at 7:30**. The High School Youth Ministry will create shadow images and lead prayer so that we might walk the Way of the Cross together. Students will not have class this night so that families may attend this traditional Holy Week event together.

This year our **First Holy Communion Celebration will be on Sunday, May 5th during a special 11:30 Mass time**. All are invited to come and celebrate with our First Communion Families. You are also welcome to stay for the reception which follows.



First Eucharist Parent-Child Retreat

A retreat for children in our parish who will celebrate First Eucharist this spring is coming soon. Through storytelling and a number of interactive experiences, parents and children will explore themes central to our understanding of the Eucharist. This retreat will take place on *Sunday March 31st* from *10:30 to 12:30*. We will begin in the **Church**. Call **993-4590** or email saint-jc3re@gmail.com for more information.



As the Adel community continues to grow so does our Faith Formation Program. **The ministry of Catechesis** is of great importance so we encourage you to begin the discernment process now. We will need new catechists next year. Through the role of a catechist you are able to explore the Catholic faith, enrich your prayer and spiritual life, and support our parents and young disciples as they encounter Jesus.

Building the Kingdom: Lenten Project 2109

Faith Formation Families will have the opportunity to support the Nigerian Seminary. Over the past six years, schools and parish formation programs like St. John's have provided the financial support needed for essential renovations for the high school seminary. For more information or to support the project, visit www.dmdiocese.org/lentenproject2019



Thank you to the Faith Formation Kindergarten class for the 35 birthday bags they put together. The Adel Food Pantry gives a birthday bag to each person who has a birthday within a month's time. The bag includes cake mix, frosting and candles. It helps make someone's birthday a little more special.

Thanks again,
The Good Samaritan Food Pantry

WOMEN'S BREAKFAST

Saturday April 6th we welcome Tessa Roberts, Adult Faith Director at St. Mary's of Nazareth,



for an informative presentation on oils of the bible. Come and explore God's provision for emotional, physical, and spiritual needs through the gift of nature. This morning event, from 9:00 to 10:30, will include breakfast and fellowship followed by Tessa's presentation on essential oils. We encourage you to join the women of St. John's and bring a friend.