

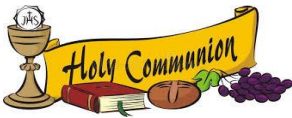


The **CIRCLE OF GRACE CHILD PROTECTION PROGRAM** has been introduced in Grades K-12 school and religious education classes in the Diocese of Springfield, effective 2020. The program aims to equip our children and young people by arming them with essential knowledge and skills grounded in the richness of our faith. This program helps children and young people to understand their own (and other's) dignity in mind, body, and spirit.

FAMILY LENTEN PROJECT On February 15th, students and parents gathered in the school library for prayer and then decorated Lenten wreaths with symbols of Lent: sandals/footprints to follow Jesus, praying hands and lists of good deeds. This was a wonderful opportunity for families to spend time together with an opening prayer service and an activity to assist with faith formation. The attendance was outstanding!



First Holy Communion Enrichment Sessions for parents were held on March 7 and March 9, 2020. Father Joseph Bayne, OFM Conv., Pastor, conducted the gatherings.



“CORONAVIRUS” OR COVID-19

On March 6, 2020, a letter from the Diocesan Director of Faith Formation containing health/safety recommendations was distributed to each student.

ROSARY ACTIVITY

FEBRUARY 22, 2020 - The students in grades 4-8 helped the younger grade students form a rosary with stickers. This activity helped the students understand the makeup of the rosary and how it is prayed. They were very engaged in this project.



CLASS CANCELLATIONS – FOLLOW-UP PROCEDURE FOR RELIGIOUS ED MATERIALS

Classes March 14, 21 and 28, 4, 11 are cancelled. Information on future classes to be determined.

The Pflaum Grades K-8 “Gospel Weeklies for March 14 – April 12, 2020 were mailed to homes with the request that parents continue to form their children in the faith by studying the information with them. These issues help to teach the children about the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Our Lord. Teaching instructions and activities for First Holy Communion students were also mailed.



With gratitude to our Catechists: Mrs Jan Peters, Miss Mary Wroblewski, Mrs. Roma Wilk, Miss Agnes Olbrys, Mrs. Trudy Dziok, Miss Elizabeth Skwira, Mrs. Diane Dubreuil, Sister Agnesa Negru, FMSA, and Brother Vincent Vivian, OFM Conv.

CONFIRMATION PROGRAM: YEARS 1 AND 2

Students in these classes were very faithful in their attendance at classes and completion of class work. The following class sessions were offered since the last update:



Ministry of Care; Vocations: Married, Religious, Ordained; the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Confessions, Holy Hour, Stations of the Cross; and the Journey through Holy Week.

The annual schedule was planned with the intent on completing all instruction material by the last class in March and we were able to complete them all! Students were then expected to attend Holy Week Services, with some having volunteered to participate in the washing of the feet on Holy Thursday. A retreat day is scheduled for April 29, 2020.

*Information on that retreat day will follow.

Year 1 students are to have completed their community service hours and service report. These services focus on the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy.

Year 2 students are to have selected a sponsor, submitted the biography of the saint whose name they have selected, and completed their service hours and service report.

The following individuals were extremely instrumental in presenting pertinent instruction to our students. We are most grateful for their volunteer services on behalf of our youth.

Catechists and Presenters: Mrs. Karen Ford, Mr. Michael Pray, Mr. Michael Johnston

Presenters:

Rev. Joseph Bayne, OFM Conv.
Brother Vincent Vivian, OFM Conv.

Rev. Paul Miskiewicz, OFM Conv.
Deacon Joseph Peters

Sister Agnesa Negru, FMSA
Mrs. Mary Blanchette

Mrs. Virginia Bauch
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Fettes

