

ST. MARK FAITH FORMATION

March 2022

RE MASS – THIS WEEK (March 2 @ 6:30pm) – ASH WEDNESDAY

We invite you to join us for Mass this week. We will be kicking off Lent with the celebration of Ash Wednesday. Mass will begin at 6:30pm, students should still arrive at 6:15 as normal but are invited to sit with their parents during Mass. The ministry assignments for Mass are:

Lector – *Jalyn McDonald*

Servers – *Elsie Fett*

Greeters – *5th & 6th Grade boys*

Gift Bearers – *4th grade boys*

Youth Led Ministries – Saturday, March 19 (5:00pm).

Students scheduled should be at the church at least 10 minutes prior to Mass and check in with me. If they are unable to fulfill their ministry role, it is your responsibility to find a replacement and let me know of the change. Here are the ministry assignments

for **February:**

Lectors – *Hunter Miller, Jalyn McDonald*

Servers – *Noelle Winters, Marisol Lara*

Greeters & Ushers – *Zachary Hickethier, Anica Reimer, Kaden Rodamaker, Jalyn McDonald*

Gift Bearers – *Gracen Barhite, Owen Fett, Thomas Regnier*

Kindergarten – Grade 5:

- ***Class Schedule...***

Wednesday, March 2 – RE Class (6:15-7:30pm), Mass (6:30pm)

Wednesday, March 9 – RE Class (6:15-7:30pm), Eucharistic Adoration available 6:30-7:30pm

Wednesday, March 16 – NO CLASS (Spring Break)

Wednesday, March 23 – RE Class (6:15-7:30pm), Eucharistic Adoration (6:15-7:45pm), Fr. Frantz's talk on Haiti (6:45-7:30pm)

Wednesday, March 30 – RE Class (6:15-7:30pm), Youth Led Stations of the Cross (7:00pm)

- **Lenten Materials** – A booklet with fun daily Lenten activities was sent home with all students last week. We hope your child will enjoy these during this season.

- **Mary's Meals** – We will again be collecting funds for Mary's Meals. This year all funds will be directed to Haiti. Back by popular demand...
 - **Blue Cups** - Family activity calendars and collection cups to help us remember our blessings and help children in need this Lenten season.
 - **Money Jar Challenge** – Each classroom will have an assigned jar. Students may bring coins (or cash) to help their class collect the most money. The class with the highest total (per student) at the end of the RE year will receive a prize.
 - **M&M Tubes** – Each student has received a tube of Mini M&Ms. After the candy is eaten, the tubes can be filled with quarters. Once filled they can be returned for another new tube of candy. This can be repeated as many times as wanted. (The money collected in the tubes will be added to their classroom totals as well.)

Grades 6-8:

- **Class Schedule...**
 - Wednesday, March 2 – RE Class (6:15-7:30pm), Mass (6:30pm)
 - Wednesday, March 9 – RE Class (6:15-7:30pm), Eucharistic Adoration available 6:30-7:30pm
 - Wednesday, March 16 – NO CLASS (Spring Break)
 - Wednesday, March 23 – RE Class (6:15-7:30pm), Eucharistic Adoration (6:15-7:45pm), Fr. Frantz's talk on Haiti (6:45-7:30pm)
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- **Youth Ministry -**

- **Lock-In** – Our annual lock-in in Webster City will be next weekend.

Those that are registered, watch your email this week for final details!

- **ICYC** – Something new for our middle school students is the Iowa Catholic Youth Conference (ICYC). This day-long event is a collaboration between the Archdiocese of Dubuque and Diocese of Davenport. It will be held on Sunday, April 3 (10:00am-4:00pm) in Iowa City. Dana Catherine (NCYC 2021 artist) will be the featured speaker/musician. Cost is \$35 by March 1, or \$40 after. Cost includes registration fee, materials, lunch, and transportation.

** If you would rather attend this as a family, that is highly recommended, and I would be happy to help you do so. Please let me know and I will get you the necessary information.*

Grades 9-10:

- ***Class Schedule...***

Saturday, March 12 – Class/Lenten Speaker (3:30-5:00pm)

Sunday, March 20 – RE Class (noon-2:00pm)

Family (and Adult) Faith Formation:

We will continue to offer some fun opportunities throughout the year for all of our families to enjoy together. We hope you will be able to join us occasionally for these events.

- **Lent** – An email full of ideas for this holy season was emailed out last week. Contact me ASAP if you did not receive one. Also, be sure to check out the church entrances for a variety of materials. We are offering two studies for those interested.

- ***Blessed is She*** book –

- ***Know Chocolate This Lent*** – Weekly gatherings, we will reflect on the significance of the gifts that we often take for granted - the gift of chocolate and the gift of faith. We will understand that what we often take for granted—whether it is chocolate or faith—is much more satisfying when they know the story behind the traditions they celebrate. Sessions to be held Sunday mornings following Mass in the parish hall.

- ***Metanoia: A Journey with Christ into Conversion*** – Weekly gatherings, with videos featuring Fr. Dave Pivonka. Metanoia will examine topics such as who is Jesus, what must we do to inherit eternal life, and

many other significant matters of faith. [Sessions to be held Monday evenings at 6:15 in the parish hall. Please sign up in the church entrance or contact Brenda Strayer or Tammy Cooper.](#)

- **Mary's Meals** – We will have Mary's Meals apparel for sale after the Masses and during RE classes on March 19-April 3. If there is anything specific you are looking for (style, design, size) please let me know ASAP.
- **Haiti** – It has been decided that this year all Mary's Meals donations will be designated for Haiti. To help all of us understand the poverty and struggles of his home country, Fr. Frantz will talk to all the students during class on March 23. We invite everyone to join us for this important discussion.
- **Archdiocesan Men's Conference** – A great opportunity for men to gather and grow in their faith. We will be hosting a gathering here at St. Mark for this event on **March 9** if there is interest. Keynote speakers will be Mark Hartfiel, vice-president of *Paradisus Dei* (a ministry that produces the "That Man is You!" men's program), and Devin Schadt, the founder of the *Fathers of St. Joseph* men's ministry. For more information and registration, please let me know.

Just a quick note to let you know that I will be gone March 20-23, but plan to be back in time for RE classes. I will not have access to my email during this time, so please understand responses will be delayed. Prayers for all of you as you enter into the holiest season of the year this week!

Brenda Strayer
St. Mark Director of Faith Formation

Faith Formation Calendar of Events at St. Mark

February

- **Wednesday, March 2 – ASH WEDNESDAY**
RE Class– Grades K-8 (6:15-7:30pm)
Mass (6:30pm)

- **Saturday, March 5**

IMPACT classes @ St. Mark (9:00am-3:00pm)

Middle School Lock-In @ Webster City (5:00pm)

- **Sunday, March 6**

Middle School Lock-In @ Webster City (Return at 7:30am)

Know Chocolate This Lent Study (9:15am in parish hall)

- **Monday, March 7**

Metanoia Study (6:15pm in parish hall)

- **Wednesday, March 9**

RE Class– Grades K-8 (6:15-7:30pm)

Eucharistic Adoration available (6:30-7:30pm)

- **Saturday, March 12**

Lenten Mission Talk and High School RE (3:30-5:00pm)

- **Sunday, March 13**

Know Chocolate This Lent Study (9:15am in parish hall)

- **Monday, March 14**

Metanoia Study (6:15pm in parish hall)

- **Wednesday, March 16**

NO RE CLASS – Spring Break

- **Saturday, March 19**

Youth Led Ministries at Mass (5:00pm)

Parish Social after Mass

Mary's Meals apparel sale begins

- **Sunday, March 20**

Know Chocolate This Lent Study (9:15am in parish hall)

RE Class – High School (noon-2:00pm)

- **Monday, March 21**

Metanoia Study (6:15pm in parish hall)

- **Wednesday, March 23**

RE Class– Grades K-8 (6:15-7:30pm)

Eucharistic Adoration (6:15-6:45pm)

Fr. Frantz talk on Haiti

- **Saturday, March 26**

First Eucharist Retreat (10:00am-1:00pm)

- **Sunday, March 27**

Know Chocolate This Lent Study (9:15am in parish hall)

- **Monday, March 28**

Metanoia Study (6:15pm in parish hall)

- **Wednesday, March 30**

RE Class– Grades K-8 (6:15-7:30pm)

Youth Led Stations of the Cross (7:00pm)