

# AUGUST 2018 NEWSLETTER

## St. Bernard's Parish Faith Formation

Welcome to the first issue of the Faith Formation Newsletter!

This monthly newsletter will be used to share Faith Formation news, class activities, important dates and upcoming events.

We want this newsletter to be valuable to you, so please feel free to provide feedback to help us improve.



### CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

#### Grade 1:

Welcome to 1st Grade Faith Formation! We are excited to be working with your children this year. Our year started off with a trip to St. Bernard's Church and met our 7th grade mass buddies. We will go to mass every Tuesday and Thursday and will have class the rest of the week. If you would like to join us on a mass day, everyone is welcome – just meet us in back of church at 7:45am.

This year we will be working on learning how to genuflect, some of the basic prayers, and the parts of the mass and what we do in church during mass. Any extra reinforcement you can give at home would be greatly appreciated!

Our first couple chapters in our Call to Faith book will identify who God is, His gifts to us, and how we can care for the living things.

If you ever have concerns or questions, please feel free to contact either of us. Our contact information is provided on a different page in this newsletter. We are also both at school every day – so you can call school too #618-248-5146.

**-Janel Zurliene and Chris Huegen**

#### Grade 2:

Our focus in second grade will be preparing for the Sacraments of First Holy Eucharist and Reconciliation. In addition to preparing for these two very important sacraments, students will be learning and growing in their faith lives in many ways through lots of different activities. We prepare for each of the sacraments with a mini-retreat and parent meetings. More information will follow regarding dates and times for those events.

I look forward to working with the students and families in helping to set the foundation for your child's faith life. My contact information is provided on a different page in this newsletter.

**-Angie Winkeler**

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### SEPTEMBER 16

- The Catechist Day Blessing will be these masses:
  - 8:30 a.m. at St. Damian
  - 10:00 a.m. at St. Bernard

#### SEPTEMBER 23

- Feast of St. Damian Bilingual Mass and Celebration at 11:00 a.m. at St. Damian

#### SEPTEMBER 30

- St. Bernard Wurstmarkt (featuring a Faith Formation Basket Raffle)
- Blue Grass Music will be these masses:
  - 8:30 a.m. at St. Damian
  - 10:00 a.m. at St. Bernard

- Bring your Grandparents/ Godparents and others to these masses for a special blessing:
  - 8:30 a.m. at St. Damian
  - 10:00 a.m. at St. Bernard
  - 11:00 a.m. Hispanic Mass at St. Damian

#### OCTOBER 5

- Mental Health Awareness and Memorial Walk in honor of Sydney Irizarry

**Grades 3 and 4:**

I am excited to be working with the 3rd & 4th grade students of St. Bernard FF this year! Our first few weeks will be about getting to know one another, expectations of our time together, and reviewing things they have learned in the past years. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions/concerns regarding your student via phone or email. My contact information is provided on a different page in this newsletter.

**-Robbin Netemeyer**

**Grades 5 and 6:**

Welcome! The fifth and sixth grade classes will initially review parts of the mass, the commandments, books of the bible, and sacraments. We will then start with the first few chapters of the book "Call to Faith." Those chapters address readings from Ruth and the Book of Genesis (stories about creation and faithfulness). We are looking forward to a great year.

**-Kathy Engelmann and Kate Toennies**

**Grades 7 and 8:**

We have a busy year ahead of us as we prepare for Confirmation. **IMPORTANT DATES** to get on your calendar in preparation for Confirmation:

- Tuesday, September 4th @ 7 pm – Parent / Student meeting to go over expectations for the upcoming year
- Wednesday, October 10th @ 6 pm – 9 pm Confirmation Rally at Our Lady of the Snows Shrine
- Sunday, November 18th @ 10 am Mass – Rite of Enrollment for Confirmation
- Saturday, February 16th – All Day Ruma Retreat
- Sunday, March 17th @ 4 pm - tour of Cathedral in Belleville with mass following at 5 pm for all Confirmation candidates

I have asked for each of the students to get a journal for the year. It can be as simple as a notebook, a folder with loose-leaf or a small journal from the dollar store (their preference). Please bring the journal to class starting Monday, August 27.

Finally we have been asked to assist with cleanup of the park on Saturday morning, September 1, @ 7:00 am. Please mark your calendars and encourage your son or daughter to assist with this project. It is a great opportunity to get started on the service projects needed for Confirmation.

Thank you and we look forward to a great year of growing in our faith. Many blessings.

**-Dana Lake, Pops Kennedy & Kelly Jansen**

**ALL St. Bernard Faith Formation Classes – “Kards for Kinsey”**

St. Bernard FF students are participating in making cards for a prior Mater Dei student teacher, Kinsey Stockman, who is currently in basic training with the National Guard. Students will create cards for Kinsey and other soldiers in her group to offer support, encouragement, appreciation and prayerful thoughts as they work to serve our country.

Faith Formation on Mission, sharing God's love!

**IN THE COMMUNITY****MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS AND MEMORIAL WALK IN HONOR OF SYDNEY IRIZARRY**

Proceeds to benefit Swing for Sydney Foundation.

For more information, go to the **swingforsydney** Facebook page [here](#). To register, contact Andres at 618-920-6288 or Shelley at 314-541-2181.

Everyone is asked to pre-order (blue) Mental Health or (yellow) Suicide Awareness bows to display the weekend of October 5 – 8 for \$5.00 each. Bows are available at Albers Village Hall (248-5154) or by calling Andres or Shelley at the phone numbers above.

## FATHER ANTHONY'S GUIDANCE

["Happiness can only be achieved by looking inward and learning to enjoy whatever life has and this requires transforming greed into gratitude."](#) - **St. John Chrysostom**

Folks! Catholics are joyful people. We even have a book on it (See Joy of the Gospel by Pope Francis). Joy is deeper than happiness because it is rooted in Christ. Everything we go through in this life is an opportunity to grow in holiness. We must be joyful about everything God has given us. God has given us a great opportunity, to be a saint. Each person on this earth has a different journey to become a saint. This is why we must thank God for everything and we do this by accepting the good, the bad, and the ugly with great joy.

Each one of you. Have a lovely week ahead.

**-Fr. Anthony Onyango**

## THE DEACON'S REMARKS

### **Welcome everyone to the 2018-2019 Faith Formation Class**

I hope you have all had a fruitful summer and time to relax.

First of all, I would like to welcome our new students and Parents. This is where you will stay for the coming years. Most probably, this is where you will meet the best friends of your life. Please accept our best wishes. And to all the returning students, welcome back. And of course, to our teachers, welcome back too. Thank you for your hard work. I believe that with everybody's contribution, we will have a very successful year ahead.

What is meant by learning wisely? What is learning to you? More importantly what is learning to your children? Find out how your children learn.

How do you do that? My suggestion is, start asking questions. Young children ask a lot of questions. They are interested in many things around them. They want to know, so they ask, and this is how they learn. Unfortunately, the older we get, the less questions we ask, and the less we learn. To become a wise learner, the first thing to do is to re-build the habit of asking questions. Start asking questions again, like what you did when you were small. Always ask "WHY", 'Why is it like this', 'Why doesn't it happen like this', 'Why are they the same', 'Why are they different'. Ask "HOW". 'How is it related to me', 'How does it work', 'How is it made', etc. Ask "WHAT". Ask "WHERE". Ask "WHICH". Ask anything that you don't understand. When you get into the habit of asking questions, you will ignite your inquisitive mind. Remember to start asking your children questions. If you are interested in them, then you motivate them to learn because what they learn is important enough that you take the time to ask.

God teaches us to love our neighbors. When we follow the teaching and make an impact on the lives of others, our lives become meaningful. Are you living a Christian life now? Set it as another life-long goal of yours and get closer to it each day.

To sum up, the message I want to get across is asking you to: Learn Wisely and Live in Christ. I hope you will remember this for the rest of the year, and for the rest of your life.

On the next page you will find the contact information for our colleagues and your helpers in teaching your children the ways of faith.

Let me welcome everybody again, staff and students, new and old. Let's work closely together for another fruitful year and offer this to God, who is watching from above. Thank you!

**-Deacon Glenn**

[I believe though I do not comprehend, and I hold by faith what I cannot grasp with the mind](#) **-St. Bernard**

Name	Grade/Title	Phone Number	E-mail Address
Rev. Anthony Onyango	Administrator	424-536-6906 or 618-248-5112	utugo@yahoo.com
Deacon Glenn Netemeyer	Pastoral Associate/DRE	618-772-9343 or 618-248-5134	deaconglen36@gmail.com
Deacon Kevin Templin	Permanent Deacon	314-660-3976	deaconkevin18@gmail.com
Sister Ellen Orf	NC Vicariate Hispanic Minister	636-293-8253	ellen_46@yahoo.com
Chris Huegen	1st Grade	618-363-3745	chuegen@alberscougars.com
Janel Zurliene		618-402-2869	jzurliene@alberscougars.com
Angie Winkeler	2nd Grade (teaching First Reconciliation and First Communion)	618-789-1699	awinkeler@ezeeweb.com
Robbin Netemeyer	3rd and 4th Grades	618-772-9346	gnetemeyer@msn.com
Kathy Engelmann	5th and 6th Grades	618-660-5974	kate78@charter.net
Kate Toennies		618-795-3594	kjtoennies@gmail.com
Dana Lake	7th and 8th Grades	618-973-7862	ken_danalake@charter.net
Bryan (Pops) Kennedy	(teaching Confirmation)	618-806-7776	-
Kelly Jansen		618-830-5693	kr_jansen@yahoo.com
Phyllis Albers		618-248-5496	pjalbie@gmail.com
Melissa Netemeyer	Mass/Classroom Helpers	618-691-9413	5nets@charter.net
Tiffany Engelmann		618-979-2953	tiffanyengelmann@att.net
Tammy Schrage	Faith Formation Newsletter Editor	618-210-1850	tammyiphone@charter.net

## FEAST DAY MASSES

In many Spanish countries the feast of the parish patron saint is celebrated by the whole community with the Feast Day Mass, plenty of music and food.

The feast of St. Bernard was Monday, August 20. The community held a raffle at the August 19<sup>th</sup> 10:00 a.m. mass at St. Bernard announcing a few lucky winners!

The feast of St. Damian is September 26. This year the people of St. Damian will gather for a bilingual Mass (music and scriptures) on Sunday, September 23 at 11:00 a.m. and then celebrate with food and games.

The meal will be potluck so everyone is invited to come and bring something to share.

Thank you,

**-Sister Ellen Orf**

<u>Last Name begins with</u>	<u>Please bring</u>
A-D	Dessert
E-M	Salad or vegetable
N-R	Drinks
S-Z	Paper Products

**NOTE TO PARENTS**

School doors open at 7:15 a.m. Students will be supervised in the cafeteria until classes begin. The bell rings in the cafeteria at 7:30 a.m. and we begin with prayer at that time before we dismiss to the classrooms. Please try to arrive prior to 7:30 a.m. so we may begin together.

Our schedule is class time on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday and Mass on Tuesday and Thursday which begins at 7:45 a.m.

It is very important that you make every effort to have your student attend Faith Formation daily. If your child is unable to attend class/Mass, please contact your child's teacher via call, text, or email, or have your child bring a note the next day he/she attends class to explain the absence. As always, please contact us with any questions, ideas, or concerns you have throughout the year.

Parents/grandparents are always invited to be a part of Faith Formation and join us for Mass. Many prayers and blessings to all of you as we begin this new school year!

**FAITH FORMATION WEEKDAY MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

<h3 style="text-align: center;">St. Bernard's Ministry Schedule - August/September 2018</h3>						
Contact Info:		<u>Angie Winkeler</u>		Period start date:		<u>8/28/2018</u>
Phone:		<u>618-789-1699</u>		Period end date:		<u>9/30/2018</u>
Email:		<u>awinkeler@ezeeweb.com</u>				
Day	Date	Readers	Servers	Cantors	Voc. Prayer	Class Host
Tuesday	8/28/2018	Makenna L. Kaleb J.	Brady R. Landon S. Trevor J.	Ana A. Jordyn S.	Chloe E.	7
Thursday	8/30/2018	Carson R. Mallory S.	Andrew C. Corinne W. Jillian K.	Ana A. Jordyn S.	Quinten E.	7
Tuesday	9/4/2018	Rylee J. Elliott R.	Kellen R. Sophia K. Jacob K.	Corina H. Hayley L.	Modesto H.	6
Thursday	9/6/2018	Grant W. Andrew C.	Avery W. Lydia E. Cole W.	Corina H. Hayley L.	Austin M.	6
Tuesday	9/11/2018	Herbert H. Trevor J.	Makenna L. Coryn T. Clayton J.	Alaina H. Mallory S.	Justin M.	5
Thursday	9/13/2018	Abby C. Ashlyn G.	Riley R. Carson R. Ben M.	Alaina H. Mallory S.	Kara M.	5
Tuesday	9/18/2018	Cole W. Hayley L.	Jordyn S. Tessa S. Kaleb J.	Ashlyn G. Coryn T.	Kayle R.	4
Thursday	9/20/2018	Aidan V. Alaina H.	Kalie W. Madi W. Elliott R.	Ashlyn G. Lydia E.	Jack R.	4
Tuesday	9/25/2018	Coryn T. Clayton J.	Bradley S. Cayden L. Hayley L.	Ana A. Jordyn S.	Brock S.	3
Thursday	9/27/2018	Jillian K. Corinne W.	Mallory S. Lucero H. Corina H.	Ana A. Jordyn S.	Oliver V.	3