

APRIL 2019 NEWSLETTER

St. Damian's Parish Faith Formation

You can do a lot of good in the world if you are not too much concerned about who gets the credit.

-Windows of Worship

CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

Kindergarten:

Kindergarten Faith Formation students have been busy learning about Lent and all of the teachings associated with the Easter season.

We will be concluding these last weeks of Faith Formation by studying the parts of the Mass, reviewing the seven sacraments and talking about the importance of saying the prayers we have learned throughout summer vacation.

I have enjoyed teaching your children this year.

-Arlene Korte

Grade 1:

To continue with the season of Lent, the students watched an animated version of *The Passion and Resurrection of Jesus Christ*. It was a video suitable for the whole family.

We continued to learn about *The Great Commandment*: to love God above all else and to love others the way you love yourself.

We learned how Prayer is the listening to and talking to God. We explained that *The Lord's Prayer* is the prayer that Jesus taught us and that it is also called *The Our Father*.

The last week was about the Holy Trinity, focusing on *The Holy Spirit*. The students learned that they sometimes need a guide to stay close to God the Father and to Jesus, God the Son. God the Holy Spirit is the third Person of the Holy Trinity, and *The Holy Spirit* is the Person we go to for guidance in our lives.

In May, we will focus on the friends of God, who are called Saints. Some other areas we will cover are the Ten Commandments and the Seven Sacraments. We will learn what "sin" is and how God "forgives" sinners, and how he wants us to "forgive" each other when we say we are sorry.

It has been a good year. Happy summer to all!!

-Mary Innes



UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY 4

- First Eucharist – 4 pm Mass at St. Damian Church

MAY 14

- Balloon Rosary – 7:45 am on the South side of the gym in Damiansville

MAY 17

Last Day of Faith Formation



Grade 2:

The 2nd grade finished their books, learned the meaning of the Eucharist, and more about Holy Week.

We will be learning a song and practicing for First Communion.

In the last two weeks of class we will be making crafts, gifts for the parents, and learning about the Saints.

-Ruth Pingsterhaus and Gabby Kramer

Grades 3 and 4:

Some days it was a challenge, but the students did it and we had a donut party on the Tuesday after Easter! I'm hoping they will follow through for the rest of the school year.

The students are all enjoying and eager to volunteer to serve mass. I hope that continues also! 😊

In May, I will be asking for volunteers (all students not just 3rd/4th) to serve at weekday Mass during the summer. I usually assign a week (Monday and Wednesday). If we get enough volunteers, they will only have to serve one week. If your child can serve, and you have a week that will work, or weeks that won't work due to vacation or camps, please feel free to send me an email, text or call.

Thanks in advance! My email is skalmer@kalmerlumber.com or 618-420-3120.

Have a great summer!

-Sharon Kalmer

Grades 5 and 6:

We will end the year with reviewing and reflecting on what was brought to the classroom this year and try to continue to focus on our faith and what it means to each of us!

Each one of the 5th and 6th graders have touched my heart by something they said, did, or how they participated in the classroom.

Wishing everyone a safe and happy summer! Don't forget to talk to Jesus this summer!

-Kathleen Hodges

Grades 7 and 8:

The 7th and 8th grade Faith Formation class played a game of "Build A Church" (instead of "Hangman") to see how well they could identify and define terms they have learned throughout the year.

They also watched a documentary on Jesus' final week on earth, "Jesus...Countdown to Calvary". This documentary focused on what exactly happened from Palm Sunday when He rode into Jerusalem as the people's King and five days later on Good Friday, when He was crucified.

On Tuesday, of Holy Week, we had a little pre-Easter party with doughnuts and chocolate milk at the "Jackie house!"

This has been a very good year with a great group of kids! I, as their teacher, have totally enjoyed my time spent with them.

Thank you, parents, for your support throughout the year. Thank you also for your prayers and support for my family, especially for my granddaughter, as we all adjust to our "new normal" and God's plan in our lives.

Have a blessed summer with your kids!"

-Jackie Toennies

FATHER ANTHONY'S GUIDANCE

Lead Me To The Cross

by [Janet Martin](#)

Across the darkened plains of woe
A Voice rings, "God, forgive
What they do, how can they know?"
Because He died, I live

The hand that touched and healed the weak
Is pierced with cruel nail
Yet love pours from each word He speaks
"Oh, Father, not my will"

The arms that drew the children near
Are spread in agony
And from his eyes flow holy tears
As Jesus dies for me

Here is the perfect Son of God
Beneath man's heartless blows
As earth receives redemption's flood
In colors of the rose

And as the scarlet blood-drops fall
The seed of hope is born
Amazing grace for one and all
From limbs so bruised and torn

Lead me to the blood-stained cross
Pour out my sin and pride
All that I give is counted loss
As I see him who died

Lead me to the arms of love
Where freely He forgives
And seals my place in Heaven above
Because He died, I live!
BECAUSE HE DIED, I LIVE!

-Fr. Anthony Onyango

THE DEACON'S CORNER

THE SACRAMENTS OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION

From the Catholic Catechism:

1212 The sacraments of Christian initiation - Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist - lay the foundations of every Christian life. "The sharing in the divine nature given to men through the grace of Christ bears a certain likeness to the origin, development, and nourishing of natural life. The faithful are born anew by Baptism, strengthened by the sacrament of Confirmation, and receive in the Eucharist the food of eternal life. By means of these sacraments of Christian initiation, they thus receive in increasing measure the treasures of the divine life and advance toward the perfection of charity."

I bring this up as the Faith Communities are being renewed with the joy of the sacraments bestowed on Easter Saturday; First Communion and Confirmation at St. Bernard; and First Communion at St. Damian; along with all the baptisms that are taking place over the next several weeks of Easter.

Just an added note of [the importance of the children coming to Mass regularly on weekends with their families](#). On weekdays they attend Mass during Faith Formation sessions, but the children need to pray with their moms and dads at Mass also on the weekends. Praying together strengthens a family in more ways than we'll ever realize!!!! Joshua says, "**as for me and my house, we will serve God.**"

Thank you for bringing the children to Mass!

-Deacon Glenn

"May you always be doing those good, kind things that show you are a child of God."

[Phil 1:11 Living Bible \(TLB\)](#)

ADORATION WITH BENEDICTION

A Weekly Holy Hour with Benediction is held **every Wednesday** at St. Bernard and St. Damian parishes. Adoration starts at 7:00 p.m. and concludes with Benediction at 8:00 p.m.

The location rotates on the SAME schedule as the Saturday Masses:

- May – St. Damian
- June – St. Bernard
- July – St. Damian

And so on...

Here is a link of things to do during a Holy Hour... <http://www.therealpresence.org/eucharst/pea/holyhour.html>

If you have any questions, please contact me at 314-660-3976.

-Deacon Kevin

EASTER PEOPLE

We are Easter people, redeemed by the Blood of Christ. This is a time of many celebrations.

Easter eggs and Easter baskets remind us of the miracle of new life and the extravagant love of God. As Deacon Glenn says: "Not just for all of us but for each one of us by name!"

We welcome two new members of our parish family at the Easter Vigil and shortly we will celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation as our Bishop comes to anoint those who have been preparing throughout this year.

We will celebrate First Holy Communion at St. Bernard and with the Hispanic Community on April 28, and at St. Damian on May 4th.

LET US REJOICE AND BE GLAD!

Somos pueblo pascual y gente de Aleluya!, redimidos por la sangre de Cristo. Este es un tiempo de muchas celebraciones; huevos de Pascua y canastas de sorpresas nos recuerdan del milagro de nueva vida y el amor extragavante de Dios. Como dice el Diacono: "No solo por todos pero para !cada uno por nombre!"

Damos la bienvenida a dos nuevos miembros de nuestra familia parroquial el Sabado de Gloria y pronto celebraremos el sacramento de Confirmacion cuando el Obispo viene a ungirlos que han estado preparando por todo este año y mas. Celebraremos Primera communion en S. Bernard y con la Comunidad Hispana el 28 de abril y en S. Damian el 4 de Mayo. !CON JUBILO ALEGREMONOS!

-Sister Ellen Orf

FAITH FORMATION WEEKDAY MINISTRY SCHEDULE

St. Damian's Ministry Schedule
May 2019

Gym Door Openers

Monday	Kathleen
Tuesday	Ruth
Wednesday	Sharon
Thursday	Jackie
Friday	Mary

Date	Voc Prayer	Servers	Reader	Petitions	Gifts	Choir	Doors
Wed _ May 1	Randy Oros	Natalie Lynch Aliya Henss Kennedy Toennies	Kevin Athmer	Evelyn Ribbing	Brant Horstmann Ryan Oros	7/8th	7
Mon - May 6	Hunter Toennies	Zachary Huegen Ethan Toennies Aidan Toennies	Henry Toennies	CeCe Toennies	2nd grade boys	1/5th	7
Wed - May 8	Natalie Lynch	Aliya Henss Ethan Korte Reid Koch	Julia Korte	George Herzing	Lyla Koch Olivia Wilken	7/8th	7
Mon - May 13	Edwin Oros	Hunter Toennies Simon Toennies Genesis Contreras	Ethan Toennies	Kennedy Toennies	Gracie Dieters Randy Oros	2/6th	7
Wed - May 15	8th Grade Mass ??						