

St. Cletus Faith Formation Newsletter



Friday, February 3, 2023

Dear Parents,

This weekend we celebrate the Fifth Sunday in Ordinary time. Sunday's Gospel reading follows upon the teaching of the Beatitudes, Jesus uses the metaphors of salt and light to describe the life of discipleship.

Jesus' call to be salt for the earth and light for the world powerfully states our mission as Church and as Christians.

[Reflection for the Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time](#)

Confirmation:

Saturday, February 11th we celebrate the Confirmation of our 2023 Confirmation Class. There will be a rehearsal on Friday evening, February 10 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

We are very proud of their accomplishments this year. Throughout the year they have demonstrated they are ready to complete the sacraments of initiation and accept a greater responsibility in our parish and the Church of Chicago.

Let us continue to pray for them, that as they receive the Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit, they will continue to grow in their relationship with Jesus and come to be true disciples.

Congratulations!

We will be having a Zoom Meeting, Sunday evening to answer questions and prepare for our rehearsal. The link to join the meeting will be e-mailed on Saturday.

Special Sacraments Group:

A reminder, families with children enrolled in our Special Sacraments Group should attend a special class on the sacrament of Reconciliation on Saturday, February 4, from 9:30 until 11:00 a.m. Remember, this group is our children in grades 3–7 who have not yet received the Sacraments of First Reconciliation.

We are asking parents to attend a meeting at 10:30 a.m. so we can meet to discuss the logistics for the day, Children will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Saturday, February 18.

Our second grade children who missed receiving the Sacrament in November will also receive the sacrament on the 18th.

Family Catechetical Event:

Thank you to all of the families who attend our Catechetical Event last weekend. In all 25 families were in attendance and some 35 children.

Hector and I are looking at hosting similar event in the spring.

Calendar:

I have been told that there has been confusion over the calendar regarding when classes are in session. There was only one change to the original calendar sent out in June and that was adding the October 2—3 class. All other dates are the same as listed on the original flyer.

We sent out the second semester dates when we returned from our Christmas break. We will re-send it with the children on Sunday and Monday.

Our class dates are also included in the newsletter. To that end, during the month of February we will meet this week 2/5 & 2/6; as well as, 2/12 & 2/13; and 2/26 & 2/27.

Lenten Outreach Volunteer Opportunity

As we prepare for Lent, we partner with Catholic Relief Services (CRS) to reach out and serve others through the Rice Bowl program. Please help distribute Rice Bowls after Masses **February 25-26**. All ages are welcome.

Visit: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e094cacac2ea2fc1-rice#/> to view slots and sign up.

Below you will find a second service opportunity for our Food Pantry.

Food Pantry: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e094cacac2ea2fc1-stcletus#/>

For Our Kids!

Sunday Readings and Resources for our children and families.

Catholic Kid's Media – Salt of the Earth and Light of the World! A fun Catholic reflection for kids based on the readings for the 5th week in Ordinary Time, cycle A

[**Salt of the Earth & Light of the World!**](#)

Fun Activities

[**Gospel Word Search.**](#)

[**Gospel Crossword Puzzle**](#)

[**Kid's Corner**](#)

Saint Story

You Tube Video - [**Story of St. Blaise**](#)

Feast of St. Blasé

Bishop Reed offers the blessing of the throats through the intercession of St. Blaise, whose feast is February 3rd. Bishop Reed explains why St. Blaise is invoked for protection against disease of the throat and how this blessing relates to the feast of the Presentation of the Lord, also known as Candlemas Day, celebrated on February 2nd.

Blessing of Throats by Bishop Reed

God Bless,

Lawrence Manetti
Director of Faith Formation

Hector Obregon-Luna
Associate Director of Faith Formation