

St. Cletus Faith Formation Newsletter

Friday, February 10, 2023



Dear Parents,

This weekend we celebrate the Sixth Sunday in Ordinary time. The readings for the 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time focus on the law and commandments. The first reading tells us to choose life by obeying God's commandments. The second reading reminds us that God's wisdom is far greater than our own. And in the gospel Jesus tells us he has come to fulfill the law, not to abolish it.

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

Loving Father,

Open our hearts to hidden realities: your love for all people, your presence in the community, your call to justice and peace. May the sacraments stir in us that same love for those with whom we worship and all members of our human family.

Christ Jesus, Help us to imitate your example: healing the sick, welcoming the stranger, assisting the poor and vulnerable. May the sacraments remind us of your love and self-giving, which we strive to imitate.

Holy Spirit, Make visible to our eyes what is invisible: your call to your people, your summons to live our faith daily as witnesses of justice and peace. May the sacraments move us to engage in love-inspired action that transforms us and the world. AMEN

The above prayer is a prayer by the Council of Catholic Bishops. This is a special prayer on Discipleship. As our young people receive the Sacrament of Confirmation today, let us keep them in our prayers and pray that all of us can be disciples.

Confirmation:

Tomorrow at 1:00 p.m. our Confirmation class will complete their journey as they receive the final sacrament of initiation as they are sealed with the Holy Spirit in Confirmation.

Congratulations on your confirmation! I am so happy to be part of your life, may you continue to grow spiritually, and may your faith always be strong. Remember, this is not an end but a beginning, the Church needs you and your talents. We pray that God will always be in your life, may He answer your prayers and never leave you.

I also wish to thank their all their Catechists who through the years helped guide them and prepare them for this moment. We are blest at St. Cletus to have such a remarkable and dedicated group of Catechists who are willing to share their faith. Thank you for all you do!

The true heroes are the parents, who brought their child to Baptism and continued the journey with them. Continue to guide them, and remember that we at St. Cletus are here to help.

For those who may wish to view the Confirmation Mass, it is being live-streamed on the parish You Tube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AnwKoycHyig>.

First Reconciliation

Children in grades 3 – 7 who have not made the sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Saturday, February 18 at 10:00 a.m. We also invite our second grade children who missed receiving the Sacrament in November will also receive the sacrament on the 18th.

Please pray for them and their families as they take this step toward their First Communion in May.

Class Schedule

Remember, classes are in session this week, February 12 & 13. Classes will not be in attendance next week Sunday, February 19 and Monday February 20 as we remember the President's Holiday.

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 – Blessed are they who follow the laws of the Lord. A fun Catholic reflection for kids based on the readings for the 6th week in Ordinary Time, cycle A.

[Sunday Readings for Children](#)

Fun Activities

[Gospel Word Search](#)

[Kids Corner](#)

Saint Story

This week we celebrate Valentine's Day and remember this very popular saint - St. Valentine. We also celebrate the feast day of two less popular saints - St. Cyril and Methodius, two brothers who became missionaries and carried the Gospel message to Eastern Europe.

Let us learn about these saints.

[Saint Valentine](#)

[St Cyril & Methodius](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

With the Sacrament of Confirmation being celebrated today in our parish, I thought I would share an interesting article on the Sacrament of Confirmation from Get Fed.

WHERE IS THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION IN SCRIPTURE?

The sacrament of confirmation has a lot of Biblical basis, especially in the book of Acts.

On Pentecost Sunday in Acts 2, Jesus's apostles and disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit. Jesus' followers then shared the Holy Spirit by laying their hands on others. Later in Acts 8, when the Apostle Philip would hear of people's conversions and baptisms in Samaria, Peter and John would lay their hands on these new converts to receive the Holy Spirit. Acts 8:14-17 explains how these newly baptized Christians had not yet received the Holy Spirit, which is why Peter and John would then lay hands on those who had been baptized. Thus, the act of receiving the Holy Spirit through laying of hands (i.e., confirmation) is a separate sacrament from baptism.

While baptism and confirmation are two distinct sacraments, they can be celebrated together, just as when St. Paul baptizes a group and then lays his hands on them in Acts 19:5-6. We also see these two sacraments performed in sequence when we attend an Easter Vigil Mass, as RCIA participants receive their Baptism and then their Confirmation.

Catholic practices and customs are based on Scripture and the rich traditions of our Church. The sacrament of confirmation pours the Holy Spirit into practicing Catholics and gives them the graces to live out their faith as they enter adulthood.

(Get Fed Bite Sized Faith by the Catholic Company).

God Bless,

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