

# St. Patrick Religious Education Parent Newsletter

January 2024 - Volume XVIII Issue 4



## **CLASSES RESUME THIS SUNDAY THE 7TH AND NEXT WEDNESDAY THE 10TH**

### **1 + Plan**

#### **2023-24: Charity & Service**

Sometimes we feel overwhelmed with commitments and think there is no time for anything extra. This especially could be true with something like volunteering. With school, sports, work, church, we may not have time to give to the less fortunate. This is ok. In addition to the Corporal Works of Mercy, we have the Spiritual Works, too.

The Spiritual Works of Mercy are: admonish sinners, instruct the uninformed, counsel the doubtful, comfort the sorrowful, be patient with those in error, forgive offenses, pray for the living and the dead. I'd like to focus in on prayer: something we can do every day. Even when we feel we can't do anything to help someone: the poor in our city, a sick friend, a dying relative, etc. We can always pray. Also, our prayer doesn't have to be long or complicated. God knows who we are thinking of, what we want for them, and what is best for each situation. Even when prayers are

## **January/February Events**

January 7th/10th  
*Classes Resume*

January 17th/21st  
*Eucharistic Adoration  
during Class*

February 7th/11th  
*Mardi Gras  
Celebrations at class*

February 14th  
*No Class-Ash Wednesday*

March 3rd  
*First Communion Meeting,  
11am*

## **Other Important Dates:**

First Communion:

April 27th/28th

Confirmation:

May 5th

not answered the way we want, prayer can always bring peace to our minds and hearts.



1+ plan year 2.pdf

### Celebrating Epiphany

In the US, Epiphany, or Three King's Day, is always celebrated on the Sunday following New Year's Day: this year January 7th. This day recalls the visit of the Kings or Magi who brought their gifts to the Christ Child.

There are many ways to celebrate this Holy Day: If you haven't taken down your Christmas decorations yet, leave them up a few more days. Have a sweet treat or special dinner. Still have some Christmas money or gift cards? Use one to treat yourself and celebrate. Epiphany is also the traditional day to bless your doorway or home. This might mean writing above the door in chalk: 20+C+M+B+24 (the year and the initials of the Magi), sprinkling holy water on the door or around the house, or just saying a simple prayer: *Lord God of heaven and earth, you have revealed your only-begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who inhabit it. Fill us with the light of Christ, that our concern for others may reflect your love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

### Circle of Grace

Teachers will present these lessons, which are required of all RE programs and Catholic schools in the Archdiocese, in class January 24th/28th. This program helps children to understand their own (and others) dignity in mind, body, and spirit. Its age-appropriate lessons include things such as good/bad relationships, safe/unsafe situations, boundaries, etc.

Please look over the following information and call the RE office with any questions.

### Weather Cancellations

With the possibility of winter weather, please remember our cancellation procedures: if Gretna Public School cancels classes on a Wednesday, lets out early, or cancels after school activities, all RE sessions will be cancelled that evening.

We may also decide to cancel classes on a Wednesday on our own (see following). On Sundays, we will decide to cancel classes. If so, an email and/or text will go out via flocknote. There will also be an automatic reply on emails, and there may be a message on phones. RE cancellations may sometimes be listed on local news outlets - but not always. Of course, even if classes are not cancelled, but you feel it is unsafe to go out, please stay home.





2023-COG-General-Parent-Letter-K-8-  
from-Admin.pdf



common questions for parents.pdf

## Prayer to the Holy Name of Jesus

*Feast: January 2nd,  
and remembered through the  
whole month of January*

Lord, may we who honor  
the Holy Name of Jesus  
enjoy His friendship in this  
life and be filled with  
eternal joy in the kingdom  
where He lives and reigns  
for ever and ever.

Amen.

## Parish News

Always stay on top of Parish News and Events by checking the weekly bulletin:

**Parish Bulletin**

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