

**Faith Formation Report**  
**March Report**  
**April 1, 2008**  
Submitted by Tina Meyer, Middle/High School Coordinator,  
Director of Religious Education

**Catechists**

A Catechist meeting and social will be held on Wednesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Faith Formation Center. We will discuss our plans for next year. Upper grades will also go over guidelines for large group gatherings in Church.

**Confirmation**

Students have been working on their letters to the Bishop which will go out this week. I met with Maureen Rompa to plan the liturgy. Choir members from all four parishes are invited to sing.

Confirmation takes place on April 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 at St. Joseph Church. Our practice is on Wednesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Students will each receive a crucifix as a gift from the parishes. These and their certificates will be given out at the reception following the Mass. Families of 10<sup>th</sup> graders will be providing food for the reception.

The 10<sup>th</sup> graders took part in the Rite of Enlightenment as part of their distant preparation for Confirmation. It took place on Sunday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> at Annunciation. About 2/3 of the students took part. They received the “Teen Catechism” as a gift from the parishes. Catechists Ken Krautkramer and Kristy Mongin attended and participated.

**Curriculum**

The catechists and families were given handouts on the celebrations of Holy Week. Families also received dates, times and places of all of the celebrations.

I have received new guidelines for “Chaste Living Education”. These will be incorporated for next year. The curriculum for the lower grades is sent to families to teach at home, while some of the upper grades also have instruction at class.

**Facility**

Emergency evacuation plans have now been posted. Our custodian Ron has returned part time, and will re-number the rooms for us when he is able.

**Lent**

We are concluding and counting up the “Penny Wars” which benefited the homeless shelter at St. John the Evangelist. All participating classes will ‘win’ pizza.

**Protecting God’s Children**

Our “Safe Environment” lesson plans were taught on Saturday morning, March 1<sup>st</sup> by Maxine Geiger, myself and Mike Lotto (Director of Religious Education at St. Mary’s in DePere and one of the authors of the high school session). Only ten of our families took part in the Green Bay area sessions, while 37 others requested and signed forms “opting out” of the training. The remaining families who did not respond to two direct mailings are also considered by the Diocese as having “opted out”. All families who opted out have received the website for materials to teach their children themselves at home. I do not believe we should participate in the area wide training next year. We can teach age appropriate lesson plans with parental involvement here on specified Wednesday nights.

### **Reconciliation**

Two Reconciliation services were held on the evening of Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup> for students in the Faith Formation building. Father Don and five additional priests were there. The theme was the “Good Shepherd”. On each shift, classes began in Church, and then rotated in and out for individual confessions. We ran out of time for one class on the early shift, so Father Andy came back the following week to hear their confessions. Our class sizes were too large to have all the confessions heard in one night.

### **Registration**

We have begun working on our registration form for next year. With Maxine’s input, I have begun working on the calendar for next year, which will have at least 24 hours of instruction.

### **Summer Mission Trip**

I have had an initial meeting with the two girls who are going on the SHINE Mission Trip. They have turned in their registration forms. The amount we need to fund raise is:

Registration fees for two:	\$650.00
Transportation at .505 mile:	\$820.00
Insurance balloon:	<u>\$20.00</u>
	\$1490.00 (not including rooms for the trip).

We have begun selling Seroogy candy bars. The girls and their families are taking them to school and to work. We also plan to send letters to parish groups asking for their support. We are looking at doing a raffle of a cart full of grocery items at specified Masses in April, once we have final approval.

We have worked out an itinerary and planned a stop at a Cathedral and a National Shrine on the way to camp. There will be no admission charge for either.

### **Service**

The “Living Stations of the Cross” were presented twice on Wednesday night, March 19<sup>th</sup> at St. Joseph. A group of 12 students of varying ages practiced on Wednesday nights after classes were over, and even came in on a Sunday night to prepare. They did an excellent job, and were highly praised for the presentation. There is already interest on the part of these students in returning to do it again next year, and other students who saw the program have also expressed an interest in being part of it.

### **Staff**

I attended a GB AREA meeting on March 10<sup>th</sup> where the area wide “Protecting God’s Children” plan was discussed. Maxine, Becky and I also attended “Team Days” at the Radisson, which emphasized Catholic Social Teaching. Sr. Dianne Bergant CSA, author and biblical professor from the Catholic Theological Union and Rev. Andrew Nelson, Ph.D., University and Seminary Professor were the speakers. We found them very inspiring.

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Tina Meyer*