

MONTHLY REPORT

Faith Formation Administrative Team
April 2017

Adult Faith Formation

Dave Cushing

A. Initiation

1. **RCRA.** The spring of the Rite of Reception begins April 3 and will meet on Monday evenings at Blessed Sacrament.

> Learn more about RCRA here:

<https://waterloocatholics.org/rcra>

2. **Baptism Preparation.** 04 families attended the Baptism class in March. The next Baptism preparation class is April 10 at St. Edward.

> Learn more about baptism preparation here:

<http://waterloocatholics.org/baptizing-infants-and-children>

> Read cumulative evaluations from Baptism preparation here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-JKRWWSY/>

3. **Adult Confirmation Preparation.** 05 young adults completed preparation for Confirmation and will be confirmed April 2.

> Learn more about Adult Confirmation Preparation here:

<https://waterloocatholics.org/adult-confirmation>

B. Evangelization

1. **Catholic Evangelization Outreach.** The next Witness Hour will be May 22 at Queen of Peace Parish.

> Learn more about the Witness Hour here:

<http://waterloocatholics.org/catholic-witness-hour>

2. **Friends in Faith Singles Ministry.** The next Singles Mingle is April 8 at Cedar Falls Family Restaurant.

3. **Inactive Catholics.** A discussion session for inactive and alienated Catholics meets on the third Wednesday evening of the month at COR.

> Learn more about Inactive Catholics here:

<http://waterloocatholics.org/information-for-inactive-and-alienated-catholics>

4. **Gay and Lesbian Catholics.** A discussion session for gay and lesbian Catholics meets on the fourth Wednesday evening of the month at COR; a discussion session for family members of gay and lesbian Catholics meets on the fifth Wednesday evening of the month at COR.

> Learn more about Gay and Lesbian Catholics here:

<http://waterloocatholics.org/information-for-gay-lesbian-catholics>

C. Adult Formation and Enrichment

1. **Busy Catholics Guide to Catholic Living.** 09 people attended the Busy Catholic's Guide to Prayer, Lent and Reconciliation in March. The Busy Catholic's Guide to Holy Week is scheduled for April 5 at St. Edward.

> Learn more about the Busy Catholic's Guide to Catholic Living here:

<https://waterloocatholics.org/busy-catholics-guide-to-catholic-life>

4. **Lenten Faith-Sharing Groups.** A total of 113 persons are participating in a Lenten small group at various locations.

3. **Critical Choices Workshop.** The next Critical Choices Workshop is scheduled for May 20 at Queen of Peace Parish.

> Learn more about Critical Choices Workshops here:

<https://waterloocatholics.org/critical-choices-workshops>

5. **Care-Givers Retreat.** The Spring Care-Givers retreat is scheduled for June 3 at Covenant Medical Center.

> Learn more about the Care-Givers Retreat here:

<https://waterloocatholics.org/care-givers-retreats>

D. Spiritual Growth

1. **Lenten Online Retreat.** 19 people participated in "Living Lent with Love" online retreat March 20-26.

2. **Daily Lenten Reflection.** 651 people read the daily Lenten Reflections on Waterloo Catholics Facebook page during March (daily average of 22).

3. **Good Friday Reflections.** On Good Friday, we will be providing hourly reflections on the Lord's passion based on the Pope's Way of the Cross in the Roman Colloseum. The reflections will begin at 7:00am and be delivered by email to those who register.

E. Social Action/Interfaith Relations

1. **Yom Hashoah Commemoration.** The Catholic parishes will be co-hosts of the annual Yom Hashoah commemoration April 24 at the Grout Museum.

> Learn more about the commemoration here:

<https://waterloocatholics.org/jewish-catholic-relations>

F. Administration

1. **Waterloo Catholics on Facebook.** Total daily reach for the Waterloo Catholics Facebook page for March was 4229 (daily average: 136; daily range: 58/278).

Young Adult/COR at 220 East
Ellen Voegele

COR at 220 East

Administration:

Hospitality Ministers Training A - March 18, 9 am - 12 pm @ COR

This training is being rescheduled for May or June

COR Golf Outing - May 25, 2017

Bulletin Announcements and Posters will be going up April 8-9.

COR Internships - Spring & Fall

Working on developing ministry descriptions for potential internships in event planning and marketing for COR. I hope to have an intern this spring possibly.

Faith Formation-Sponsored Events:

Monthly Offerings:

Catholic Q&A - Thursday, March 2 - *2 people attended*

Next up: Thursday, April 6, 7 pm

Discussion Night - Sunday, March 19 Topic: Who is God and How do I know God's love? - *3 people attended, 1 inquirer for RCRA*

Next up - Monday, April 17 Topic: TBD

Monthly Movie Night with Fr. Bullock - Friday, March 17

March Movie: *On the Waterfront* - *15 people attended, 1 from Meetup group (social networking site), 1 hospitality minister served the event*

Next Up: April 21, Babette's Feast

One-time Events:

Lenten Small Groups - 4 of our small groups have been meeting at COR. They have loved the space and it has been excellent exposure to COR.

Mike Mangione & the Kin - April 22, 8 pm - We are thrilled to have this 4-piece folk band from Milwaukee at COR. Mike, the main singer, has worked with Catholic speaker & writer, Christopher West, and ironically founded The Cor Project with him. The Cor Project is dedicated to learning, living, and sharing JP II's Theology of the Body. Because of this we are benefitting this concert to Guiding Star Cedar Valley, a new organization dedicated to comprehensive women's health care that is consistent with Catholic moral and social teachings. Join us for this awesome band & to support Guiding Star!

Young Adult Ministry:

Get to Know Your Neighbors - March 5 - Interfaith Discussion On Economic Equality - cancelled as a group event due to the Rite of Election for RCIA in Dubuque.

Next up - April 2 - Cedar Valley Quakers

Young Adult Small Group on Discernment - Mondays concluding on March 6
- 7 young adults participated, reviews were extremely positive

Seven Churches Visitation - April 13, Holy Thursday Night

All young adults are welcome to join in this ancient tradition of making a spiritual pilgrimage to seven of our local parishes and chapels.

Adult & Young Adult Faith Formation:

Lenten Small Groups - The following are the groups that have been meeting during Lent.

Parish	Day	Start Time	Location	Target:
Bl. Sacrament	Sunday	6:30 pm	in home	Men & Women
Bl. Sacrament	Wednesday	6:00 am	Putz Hall	Men & Women
Bl. Sacrament	Wednesday	6:15 pm	TBD	Men & Women
Bl. Sacrament	Wednesday	6:30 pm	Village Cooperative	Men & Women
Bl. Sacrament	Thursday	10:00 am	COR at 220 East	Men & Women
Bl. Sacrament	Thursday	4:30 pm	Putz Hall	Men & Women
Q. of Peace	Tuesday	10:00 am	COR at 220 East	Men & Women
Sacred Heart	Wednesday	2:00 pm	SH Rectory	Men & Women
Sacred Heart	Wednesday	6:15 pm	SH School	Parents
St. Edward	Sunday	4:30 pm	in home	Women
St. Edward	Tuesday	9:00 am	in home	Women
St. Edward	Thursday	5:30 pm	COR at 220 East	Men & Women
Multi	Monday	5:30 pm	COR at 220 East	Young Adults

Three additional groups are using the resource that we created but were not open to advertise for additional membership.

Participant numbers:

BS = 39 QP = 5 SH = 24 SE = 25 Multi = 15

Total - 108

RCIA -

Rite of Sending/Rite of Election - March 5

Scrutinies - March 19, 26, & April 2

Retreat - April 9 @ St. Stephen the Witness

Easter Vigil - April 15 @ St. Edward

Young Adult Ministry Communications -

- Flocknote - (flocknote.com/wcff) 333 subscribers
- Facebook - Young Adults (facebook.com/cvyoungadults) 193 likes
- Facebook - COR - 119 likes

Networking/Promoted Events:

- Community Meals - March 3, 10, 17, 24 (Hospitality House & COR)
- First Tuesday - March 7 (AFF & COR)
- Busy Catholics Guide to Prayer - March 8 (AFF)
- Listening Session for Inactive Catholics - March 15 (AFF & COR)
- Taize Prayer - March 19 (AFF & First Baptist)
- Discussion for Gay & Lesbian Catholics - March 22 (AFF & COR)
- Busy Catholics Guide to Reconciliation - March 23 (AFF)
- Listening Session for Friends & Family of Gay & Lesbian Catholics - March 29 (AFF & COR)

Networking/Promoting:

- Community Meals - April 7, 14, 21, 28 (Hospitality House & COR)
- First Tuesday - April 4 (AFF & COR)
- Listening Session for Inactive Catholics - April 19 (AFF & COR)
- Discussion for Gay & Lesbian Catholics - April 26 (AFF & COR)

In process:

- COR Spring/Summer Calendaring
- COR Administration
 - COR Networking Friends
 - COR Internships
 - Updating COR Promotional Materials
 - Publicity - create a meet up group for discussion nights

Spiritual Growth & Professional Development:

- Archdiocesan Faith Formation Commission - March 4
- MAC Group - March 10
- Spiritual Direction

Children and Family Catechesis

Kelleryn Rauzi

K-8 Religious Education:

- RE classes are now doing end of class presentations on different types of prayer. See Waterloo Children and Family facebook page for pictures of these wonderful presentations.
- I led a catechist inservice on March 15th. We had about 9 catechists attend for a night of food, fellowship, prayer, self-evaluation, and large group discussion regarding common issues in an RE classroom.
- Wed. RE will have seminarian, Jim, Goerend, come talk to students on April 5th regarding vocations, etc.
- To see results of the mid-year parent survey please go to:
https://www.surveymonkey.com/analyze/TQIflydLmHOLfj_2BSVLAD0EbHjdGVw_2Bz70vrl9kgCx3c_3D
- Summer RE will be taking place during the last two weeks in June at St. Edward Catholic School. Stacie Mills is again coordinating Summer RE.
- Everything for Wednesday, Sunday and Summer RE is in place for my maternity leave. If you have questions regarding programming, please contact the faith formation office at 233-0498
- Registration information packets for Summer RE and Wed/Sunday RE for next year will be mailed out at the end of April. Info regarding registration procedures will also be in the bulletins at this time.
- We will be having face to face registration times for new families or families who would like to speak to a faith formation staff in person on the following dates:
 - May 14th @Queen of Peace 1:30-2:30pm.
 - May 17th @ Sacred Heart 6:30-7:45.
 - May 21st @ Blessed Sacrament 8:30am-9:30am
 - June 4th @ Queen of Peace 1:30-2:30pm
- Families who are not new to the program and do not need to speak to a staff member in person, can just register using the packet that will be mailed out in April.
- Wed. RE will have it's end of the year Mass on May 10th and Sunday RE will have it's end of the year mass on May 21st.

CORE:

- CORE will be finished on March 8th
- We are officially discontinuing CORE as it has been known. We will be replacing it with small faith sharing groups based on YDISCIPLINE curriculum offered by the website: www.formed.org which is a website run by the Augustine Institute. If you would like to check out the website here is a username and password you can use: username is kellerynrauziwff@gmail.com and password is kellerynne90
- We are in discussions about cancelling Summer CORE. This is due to a variety of reasons, mainly: Our extremely low numbers last year, we are changing high school faith formation starting in the fall that will be a lot more flexible for high school students schedules, changing expectations from the Archdiocese regarding Confirmation requirements.

Intergenerational Opportunities:

- Next family night will be on April 19th at Sacred Heart school gym from 6:15-7:45pm featuring the "Spoon Man" a Catholic entertainer and comedian. We will serve ice cream treats after the program. All are welcome to attend. To see more info on the "Spoon Man" check out his website at <http://www.getspooned.com/>
- After Wed. and Sunday RE classes parents are invited in to pray with us each week.

Totus Tuus:

- Totus Tuus will be held at St. Edward Catholic School again from July 23-28th.
- We are getting a "Super Team" from the Archdiocese which means we will have 6 missionaries instead of just 4. This is to accommodate the large number of people who signed up last year.
- More promotional and registration material will be made public once I receive it from the Archdiocese.
- Julie Novotney and Annie Zeets will be coordinating Totus Tuus since I will be on maternity leave for the majority of the preparations.

Other:

- I am in the process of preparing many things ahead of time for when I go on maternity leave and writing instructions for those who are covering the different areas I direct.
- The following people will be taking over different areas of my job once I go on maternity leave:
 - Wed. RE: Jessica Hert
 - Sunday RE: Becky McElroy
 - Summer RE: Dave Cushing/Stacie Mills
 - Totus Tuus: Julie Novotney/Annie Zeets
 - Registration nights for faith formation programs: Dave Cushing in conjunction with Faith Formation Team.
 - Summer CORE: William Brandle

Professional/Spiritual Development:

- Monthly spiritual direction
- Part of a Archdiocesan sponsored Ministry Accountability Cohort (MAC).
- Attended an Archdiocesan workshop on March 27th regarding the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program.

High School/Middle School Youth Ministry

Annie Zeets

High School

- Mar 5: Lent prayer and check-in: Our Lent prayer evenings are based on the small group program developed by Ellen and Dave. We read the gospel for the day. During that time, students are asked to write down words or phrases that stand out to them. Then they are asked to reflect on what they wrote. Then they are asked how it applies to their lives. We will be doing this same format each week of Lent. 14 students attended (Prayer, catechesis, community_
- Mar. 7, 21: Faith sharing at CHS
- Mar. 8: CORE; last night of class. I had all the students with me and we watched a movie
- Mar. 12: Lent prayer and check-in: 18 students attended
- Mar. 19: Lent prayer and check-in: 28 students attended

- April 2: Confirmation Mass at Columbus

NCYC 2017

- NCYC 2017 is Nov. 16-20, 2017 in Indianapolis.
- 141 students and 25 adults are registered. We will have 3 buses and will be the largest group in the archdiocese - our group is 10% of the diocesan group!
- Meetings were held on March 6th & 7th to get all the paperwork filled out
- April 23: St. Eds pancake breakfast. Donations will go to NCYC
- Plans are being made for Mother's Day breakfast at Blessed Sacrament
- Fundraising Nights will be held at the following restaurants:
 April 17: Chick-Fil-A: 5pm-8pm
 May 1: Panera Bread (Waterloo): 4pm-8pm
 May 11: Panda Express (Waterloo): 2pm-9pm

Coming Up

- April 14: Good Friday Stations of the Cross at St. Eds
- April 23: Movie Night
- April 30: Topic Night: "Why do bad things happen?"
- May 3: Lectio Divina
- May 7: Tough Topic Night
- May 10: Lectio Divina

Middle School

- Mar. 17: Karaoke Night at Blessed Sacrament: Students sang, danced and had cheese pizza. 9 students attended (*Community*)
- Mar. 26: Lenten prayer and check-in: Similar to the high school Lent nights - but more focused on the discussion and not the writing and reflecting. 12 students attended (*Prayer, Community, Catechesis*)

Coming Up

- April 12: Blessed Maria 6th grade day of renewal. I am going along and helping lead icebreakers and a small group. Day was planned and will be led by CHS senior leadership team and the 6th grade teachers.
- April 14: Movie Night at CHS youth office
- April 30: Mass. Lunch, CHS musical

Professional Development

- Monthly NCYC webinars
- eCatholic Webinar: Extreme Homepage Makeover
- Attend bi-monthly MAC meetings

Children and Family Catechesis

Julie Niemeyer

First Sacraments -

- Plans are underway for First Communion weekends:
 - April 22 - 4:30 pm/23 - 10:30 am @ Blessed Sacrament (rehearsal April 22 @ 9)
 - April 29 - 5:15 pm/30 - 11:00 am at St. Edward (rehearsal April 27 @ 5:30)
 - May 6 - 5:30 pm/7 - 10:45 am @ Sacred Heart (rehearsal May 4 @ 6:00)

- May 7 - Noon @ Queen of Peace (rehearsal May 6 at 10 am)
- First Communion celebrations differ at each parish, depending on the wishes and needs of the individual parish (pastor/staff).

Children's Initiation

- Wednesday night C.I. classes for grades 3-8 (29 students) continue through April 12. These will provide immediate preparation for First Communion.
- Three high school students received preparation
- Three elementary students from a Blessed Sacrament family are preparing for initiation at the Easter Vigil there. A family of five at Sacred Heart is being prepared to be initiated at the Easter Vigil there.

Confirmation

- 89 youth and young adults were Confirmed on Sunday, April 2 at Columbus High School. This number included 5 individuals who had recently completed the Adult Confirmation program, and one Candidate from St. Patrick who prepared there but could not attend their celebration. Two Candidates from the metro Confirmation program were not able to attend on April 2 and will be confirmed in their home parish.
- The newly confirmed will be encouraged to complete an on-line program evaluation.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

- Continuing 2x per month at QP and SH; weekly at St. Ed's.

Professional Development

- Participated in March 13 "Digital Open House" with Archdiocesan Faith Formation Staff.

Other

- Working with Annie Zeets to coordinate the April 19 Family Night.
- Leading a small faith sharing group from Sacred Heart on Monday evenings during Lent.

Office Manager

Becky McElroy

Meetings

- Preparing agenda's, updating information, and sending out meeting agenda's and minutes from the FFAT meetings.

Staff/Office

- Support staff with ongoing needs.
- Daily office duties.

- Put in survey monkey surveys for Dave..
- Invoiced for CORE, Sunday and Wednesday RE.
- Preparing month end financial reports for Commission and Team. Send out individual monthly income statements to team members.
- Working on budget for 2017-2018, including a report of increases/decreases for Commission.
- Prepared 610 Confirmation Mass booklets for Julie, copied, folded, stapled together.
- Worked on project for Father Tom to determine cost per child per Parish for RE, kindg. - 12th grade.