

# MONTHLY REPORT

Faith Formation Administrative Team  
March 2018

## Adult Faith Formation

Dave Cushing: [dbqwcaf@dbqarch.org](mailto:dbqwcaf@dbqarch.org)

### A. Initiation

1. **RCRA.** The winter RCRA series meeting on Sunday mornings at Sacred Heart will conclude on March 15. The spring series will begin on April 4 and meet on Monday evenings at St. Edward Parish.

> Learn more: <http://waterloocatholics.org/rcia-rcra>

2. **Baptism Preparation.** 02 families completed baptism preparation in February. The next Baptism preparation class is March 10 at Blessed Sacrament.

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

> Read cumulative evaluations from Baptism preparation here:

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

3. **Adult Confirmation.** We will begin advertising for adults interested in being confirmed this spring and schedule a preparation program if a sufficient number of people respond.

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

### B. Evangelization

1. **Friends in Faith Singles Ministry.** The next Singles Mingle is March 10 at the Cedar Falls Family Restaurant. A singles potluck is scheduled for March 24 at Blessed Sacrament Parish.

> Learn more: <https://waterloocatholics.org/friends-in-faith>

2. **Waterloo Catholics on Facebook.** Total daily reach for the Waterloo Catholics Facebook page for February was 3,201 (daily average: 114; daily range: 64/315).

### C. Adult Formation and Enrichment

1. **Winter Forum.** 36 people attended the Winter Forum enrichment series February 1 and 13. Total attendance at the four winter series programs was 80.

2. **Worldwide Marriage Day.** 150 people attended the Worldwide Marriage Day February 11 at Sacred Heart Parish.

3. **Critical Choices Workshop.** 02 people attended the Critical Choices workshop February 21 at St. Edward; the next workshop is scheduled for March 19 at St. Patrick Parish.

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

4. **Busy Catholic's Guide to Catholic Living.** The Busy Catholic's Guide to Reconciliation is scheduled Mar. 7; the Guide to Holy Week is scheduled for Mar. 22, and the Guide to Easter and the Easter season is scheduled for April. All will be held at COR.

> Learn more: [waterloocatholics.org/busy-catholics-guide-to-catholic-life](http://waterloocatholics.org/busy-catholics-guide-to-catholic-life)

5. **Discipleship Experience Weekend.** This year's DEW is scheduled for April 27-29 at American Martyrs Retreat House. The weekend experience is designed for adults and young adults who want to learn more about the church's social teaching and how it applies to everyday life.

> Learn more: <https://waterloocatholics.org/dew>

#### D. Social Action and Interfaith

1. **Homeless Presentation.** Cedar Valley Catholic Social Justice Network and Hospitality House will co-host a meal and presentation of the documentary film "Same Kind of Different As Me" on Sunday, April 8, at COR. The meal starts at 5:00pm; the video will begin at 6:30.

> See the trailer for the video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v8MWxtpjVp8>

---

### K-12 Religious Education

#### Kelleryn Rauzi

##### K-8 Religious Education:

- Progress reports will be going home soon for both Wed. and Sunday RE
- Wed RE just had their Lenten Reconciliation service on Feb. 28; Sunday RE will be going throughout this semester.
- Our family night was rescheduled from Feb. 18th to Feb. 21st from 5:45-7:15pm @ Blessed Sacrament parish center. This was so we could participate in the meal packaging event Blessed Sacrament hosted. We had a GREAT turnout; over 120 people came to help!
- I will be scheduling a meeting with Stacie Mills this month to start planning Summer RE.
- I am working on calendaring for next year's programs. I am also starting to look at setting up spring registration dates for our RE programs.

##### YDISCIPLE:

- We have 4 groups (2 men and 2 women) off the ground and running smoothly.
- After discussing with WPL (Waterloo Pastoral Leadership), I will be contacting the parishes to give me names of parents/students in their parish that I can reach out to regarding YDISCIPLE and their interest in it.
- I will be planning on some parent meetings of current 8th graders to talk about how YDISCIPLE can help their children in their faith journey in high school.

##### FORMED:

- FORMED is an online Catholic resource website. It has many different bible studies (including YDISCIPLE), parish programs, movies, Saint stories, podcasts, books, and much much more.
- To register you just need an email and parish code (codes below):
  - Blessed Sacrament: QFCYJH
  - St. Edward: 9Q7HGN
  - Sacred Heart: V9JDQC
  - Queen of Peace: T343JR
- I am going to be receiving a call from FORMED to help us implement this program more successfully in our parishes.

---

## **Gr. 2-12 Sacraments**

**Julie Niemeyer**

### **First Sacraments**

- Eucharist Retreat was held at Sacred Heart Church (O'Hagan, cafeteria, and church) on Feb. 24, 25, and 26. A retreat for the fourteen Burmese second graders will be held on Sun., March 11 with Fr. Luigi assisting.
- RE and school religion class lessons about Eucharist will conclude by March 28. Books will be then sent home for review and reinforcement with parents.

### **PREP (Penance/Reconciliation & Eucharist Preparation for gr. 3-8) & Children's Initiation**

- Four classes for First Communion begin after Spring Break.
- Working with a 2<sup>nd</sup> and a 6<sup>th</sup> grader from St. Ed's (Congolese) who are preparing for baptism. The 6<sup>th</sup> grader will also be Confirmed. They will have First Communion at the group celebration at St. Ed's.
- Also working with a 9<sup>th</sup> grade student from Blessed Sacrament parish preparing for full initiation and a 20 year-old- woman preparing for Eucharist and Confirmation.

### **Confirmation**

- Class #4 for Candidates and Sponsors (or parents) held on March 4 or 7 at Blessed Sacrament. Fr. Luigi will assist with Class #4 for Burmese candidates and sponsors on March 11.
- Have prepared prayer cards to take to parishes asking parishioners to pray for individual candidates. Process of preparing photo posters of candidates for parishes has run into a snag, but am still hopeful can get something done.
- Have met with Pat Wiss and communicated with Columbus administration about set-up plans for the April 7 Confirmation. Will be preparing the Worship Aid now that I have the song selections from Agnus Dei.
- Have heard that Archbishop Jackels will soon resume presiding at Confirmations. Need to wait to see if he'll be ready to maneuver the steps to the stage in the Columbus gym or if we will need to have Mass set-up on the gym floor.

**Children's Liturgy of the Word** - In progress weekly at St. Ed's, twice monthly at QP, and three times a month at SH.

### **Burmese Liaison -**

- Fr. Luigi will assist me with a separate Confirmation Class #4 for sponsors and twelve Burmese candidates and a separate Eucharist retreat for the fourteen Burmese second graders and parents. Both will be on March 11.

### **Other -**

- Participated in Arch. "Digital Open House" on Feb. 15; will attend MAC meeting on March 6.
  - Attended Archdiocesan Regional Faith Formation Leaders in-service in Tama on Feb. 27. Topic was the USCCB publication "Living as Missionary Disciples".
  - Am leading a small faith sharing group during Lent.
-

**Ellen Kuchera**  
**COR & Young Adult Ministry**  
**319-349-6710, dbqwcya@dbqarch.org**

**COR AT 220 EAST:**

- Cottonwood Canyon has not yet opened in COR, but progress is being made. Cabinets have been built and installed, the roaster is hooked up, and we are looking forward to opening hopefully by April 1 at the latest.
- Initial plans have been made for the COR Golf Outing. I am awaiting for confirmation of a date and location from coordinators, Scott Shaeffer and Maria DiValentin.
- Movie Night, Citizen Kane, is on March 16. The Meetup social group online for movie nights is growing and we had good attendance at our last movie night. Great group of both Catholics and non-Catholics discussing the movie with Fr. Scott Bullock.
- This month's discussion night topic, Faith & the Meaning of Life, will be on March 19 and will be facilitated by Fr. Scott Bullock.
- Listening Sessions for Inactive Catholics will be held on March 21.
- We have another game night scheduled after Funky Junk-a-loo on March 24 from 5-10 pm.
- 2 adult small groups are meeting at COR during Lent. We also have a ydisciple small group that meets at COR regularly.
- 3 private events are happening at COR during March.

**YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY:**

- Our March social will be hosted by Fr. Bullock. We will gather for dinner and a short film at his residence.
- The young adult women's retreat is being planned for April 28 at Hartman Reserve.

**ADULT FAITH FORMATION:**

- Lenten Small Groups - we have 10 small groups meeting during Lent with an additional 5 existing groups that are using the resource. Total number of participants is 129.
- Alpha - Dave & I are continuing to get feedback from parish staffs, councils, and WCFFC on Alpha. We are hoping to launch a pilot program beginning the end of May with parishes then starting a rotation in the fall.

**RCIA:**

- Catechetical Sessions – March 1 at Bl. Sac & March 19 at COR
- Scrutinies will be the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Sundays in March
- Holy Week Retreat is scheduled for Palm Sunday at American Martyrs Retreat House
- Finalizing details for celebration of the sacraments at the Easter Vigil on March 31.

---

**HS/MS Youth Ministry**

**Annie Zeets**

**High School**

- Feb. 6 & 20: CHS faith sharing
- Feb. 11: Topic Night: Human Sexuality: Fr. Tom joined us for this guided discussion on this very relevant topic for teens. Fruitful and sometimes difficult discussion, but the youth really appreciate Fr. Tom's presence and honesty.
- Feb. 18 & 21: Lenten Series: We will be using the book "Glorious Wounds" from Lifeteen. The book focuses on Christ's call to prayer, patience and to enter more deeply into the mysteries of His cross — how we answer that call. The first week we talked out our Lenten goals and each student was asked to: Give up 1, Pick up 1 and Focus on 1. Give up something. Pick up one thing - meaning do something positive. Focus on one sin and how we can change. Students were told to post the goals somewhere

important. Some have them in their lockers, some in their cars. Both weeks we also spent time doing Lectio with the gospel for the week.

#### **Coming Up**

- March 7: CHS junior day of renewal
- March 14: Movie Night "Wonder"
- March 18: St. Eds evening prayer
- March 30: Stations of the Cross at St. Eds - youth are leading

#### **Summer 2018 Trips**

- **Catholic Heart Workcamp:** June 17-22. Louisville, Kentucky  
Cost is \$600/person; all inclusive. Space is limited to 9 youth currently in grades 9-11:  
*Currently have 7 students registered*  
*Chaperones are myself, Rebecca Swanson, Chris Evans and Fr. Tom*  
Fundraising efforts begin in April with a spaghetti dinner planned for April 14th at Blessed Sacrament and a pie sale set for April/May.
- **Steubenville Youth Conference:** July 13-15. Rochester, Minnesota  
Cost is \$315/person. Looking into partnering with Iowa Falls YM.  
*Currently have 4 students registered and 3 adults.*

#### **Middle School**

- Feb. 6 & 20: Faith sharing at BMAP
- Helping a small group of BMAP students with their service project at Bickford Cottage
- Serving as a mentor for a 6th grade student with her school passion project

#### **Coming Up**

- March 9: Movie Night: "Wonder"
- March 23: Girls Topic Night : Finding your beauty in Christ

#### **Other**

- Promotion of YDisciple groups
- Monthly MAC meetings
- Monthly archdiocesan Youth Ministry advisory committee meetings
- I am part of the confirmation team and have helped at several of the classes with check-in and leading small group discussions
- NFCYM webinar: Adolescent Catechesis and Missionary Discipleship
- Marathon Youth Ministry webinar: YM Cliffnotes: Absolutely Everything You Need To Know To Build A Healthy Youth Ministry"
- Attended high school speech events for students from West and Columbus
- Weekly meetings with 3 different students who are struggling with life issues and their faith.
- Writing many scholarship recommendation letters for high school seniors

---

#### **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/Julie.
- Preparing financial reports for Commission and Team.
- Budget meetings and work on proposed budget for 2018-2019 to present to Commission in March.
- Update records for RE and tracking financial information/scholarships.