

# MONTHLY REPORT

Faith Formation Administrative Team

May 2019

## Adult Faith Formation

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

### A. Initiation

1. **RCRA.** 2 adults are enrolled in the spring RCRA series which is meeting on Monday evenings at St. Edward.

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

2. **Baptism Preparation.** 04 families attended the April baptism preparation program at St. Edward. In addition, I did refresher preps with two more families. The next class is May 11 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/>

### B. Evangelization

1. **Alpha for Catholics.** The Alpha summer series will start June 4 and meet at COR.

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

2. **Listening Sessions.** The next listening session for inactive and alienated Catholics is May 15 at COR. The next listening session for gay and lesbian Catholics is July 24 at COR.

> Learn more: <https://waterloocatholics.org/listening-sessions>

3. **Waterloo Catholics on Facebook.** Total daily reach for the Waterloo Catholics Facebook page for February was 6,382 (daily average:213; daily range: 117/411).

> Read cumulative evaluations of Waterloo Catholics on Facebook here: <https://bit.ly/2TSw211>

4. **Waterloo Catholics Website.** A new Guide to the Creed is available on the website at:

<https://waterloocatholics.org/guide-to-the-creed>

### C. Adult Formation and Enrichment

1. **Critical Choices Workshop.** The next workshop is May 18 at Queen of Peace.

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

2. **Busy Catholic's Guide to Catholic Living.** The Busy Catholic's Guide to sharing Faith is April 30; the Busy Catholic's Guide to Raising Catholic Children is May22. These one-hour discussions examine basic facts about how and why Catholics practice their faith.

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

3. **Focus on Faith.** The next Focus on Faith session is May 20 at COR; the topic is "

### D. Spiritual Growth

1. **Good Friday Meditations.** 45 people participated in our hourly meditations sent by email on Good Friday.

### E. Interfaith and Social Justice

1. **Yom HaShoah Commemoration.** 175 people attended the Holocaust Remembrance Commemoration April 23 at the Grout Museum.

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

See a complete calendar of opportunities for adults at:

<https://waterloocatholics.org/bulletin-board>

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## **K-12 Religious Education Team**

Wednesday RE

- The spring “family night” was a Family Penance Service on April 10. There were 100 in attendance, not including Team members and catechists.
- 2018-19 Wednesday RE concluded on May 1 with Mass. Families were invited.

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

### **First Sacraments**

- First Communion celebrations at the 4 parishes were scheduled for the two weekends after Easter. Faith Formation Team members helped at some of the celebrations.
- Numbers celebrating at each parish (gr. 2-8): Blessed Sacrament - 26 @ 3 Masses; Queen of Peace - 29 at 2 Masses; Sacred Heart - 19 at 2 Masses; St. Edward - 35 at 2 Masses. Total was 109 plus 5 more who prepared but will celebrate at a later date.
- I will compile and send to all parishes the information needed for their sacramental registers.

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

- The majority of PREP students who prepared for First Communion celebrated along with 2<sup>nd</sup> graders in a parish. A few families have asked to celebrate at a later date.

### **Confirmation**

- On-line evaluation surveys were sent to the recently Confirmed. 12 responded. The Confirmation Team will analyze the results at their wrap-up meeting on May 6.
- Information for parish sacramental registries has been sent to all parishes.

**Children’s Liturgy of the Word** CLOW has concluded for this school year at St. Ed’s and will not be held in the summer. I polled the CLOW leaders at Blessed Sacrament about their availability in the summer. Results indicate that it will be suspended for the summer there as well. CLOW continues 2x per month at QP; 3x per month at SH. Am distributing leader guides and preparing weekly leaflets for those two parishes for the summer.

### **Other -**

- Helped FF Team cover responsibilities for K-8 RE;
- Helped with preparations for the April 10 Family Penance.
- Attended MAC (Ministry Affiliated Cohort) meeting on April 11; last MAC meeting of the year will be in mid-May
- Help with Faith Sharing at Columbus twice a month concluded April 30.
- Worked with a Congolese 5<sup>th</sup> grader from St. Edward School who was fully initiated at their Easter Vigil. Another Congolese 5<sup>th</sup> grader from the school celebrated his First Communion on April 28.

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## **Ellen Kuchera COR & Young Adult Ministry dbqwcy@dbqarch.org**

COR AT 220 EAST:

- Cindy Taft, our new part-time Coordinator of Evangelization, has gotten off to a phenomenal start. She has been working on small touches to make COR even more welcoming, recruiting hole sponsors for our golf outing, Irish Fest brainstorming, event planning for the summer, networking within the community, etc.
- April’s movie night, “Amadeus” was on April 12 and focused on the deadly sin of envy. May’s movie night will be “Mary Poppins” on May 17 and will focus on the vibrant virtue of kindness

- April's discussion night was on the "The Last Things: Heaven, Hell, and Purgatory" on April 15 and for May we will be discussing "What is Truth?" on May 20.
- Plans are coming together for our 3rd Annual Golf Outing. It will be held on Sunday, June 9, at 2 pm at Jesup Golf and Country Club. We are excited to have shotgun start this year and hope to grow from last year. Sign up at [cor220east.com/special-events](http://cor220east.com/special-events) and support COR!
- We are excited to be having Alpha at COR this summer on Tuesday nights from 5:30 - 7:15 pm. All are welcome to join us, no matter where you might be in your spiritual life, as we discuss the big life and faith questions.

#### YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY:

- Open tea/Scripture reflection continued on April 8 and 22 and is scheduled for May 13 & 27.
- Continue to move toward more focus on marriage/baptism prep processes and one-on-one mentoring. The Pastoral Leadership Study Day on marriage was affirming of this goal.
- Behold Your Child - attended a training for this ministry to those who have experienced miscarriage/stillbirth. Hoping to meet with others in the area that have been trained this month to discern next steps.

#### CHILDREN & FAMILY CATECHESIS:

- Planned and Coordinated the Family Penance Service on April 10. We followed the parish theme of "Delivered."
- Planning & coordinating with Annie Zeets the RE Closing Mass to be held on Wednesday, May 1.

#### ADULT FAITH FORMATION:

- Alpha at COR - in the process of recruiting a team and planning and scheduling the first team training around mid-May.
- Year-Round RCIA - I was contacted by St. Mary's in Waverly to do a presentation/lead a discussion on our year-round RCIA model this month. Staff from St. Pius X in Cedar Rapids will also be joining. I look forward to this discussion.

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#### HS/MS Youth Ministry

##### Annie Zeets

- April 3: NCYC group meeting
- April 5-8: TEC in Calmar - member of the team. Gave witness talk on discipleship
- April 10: First meeting of the youth ministry student advisory committee
- April 13-14: Middle School Lock-In at Blessed Sacrament (rescheduled from February) 42 students attended. Went to mass, had pizza, played games, danced and watched movies
- April 16: BMAP 6th grade retreat
- April 19: Stations of the Cross at St. Eds
- April 24: Second meeting of youth ministry student advisory committee
- April 26: Was the DJ for the Blessed Maria middle school social
- April 30: CHS faith sharing

#### Coming Up

- May 7: CHS senior renewal
- May 12: Pancake breakfast at Blessed Sacrament
- Last day of school CHS/BMAP - May 31
- Last day for public schools - June 7
- Searching for dates for end of year picnic

#### NCYC 2019

- As of this report, 196 have registered, this number includes 41 adult chaperones:

- Trip is Nov, 21-24, 2019 in Indianapolis
- Cost is \$650/person (youth and adults)
- Will offer a series of training meetings for adult chaperones beginning in April.
- Monthly Archdiocesan NCYC webinars

### **Catholic Heart Workcamp 2019**

- 13 youth and 3 adults have registered for the trip
- Trip dates are July 7-12, 2019 in Kansas City
- Cost is \$500/person and we will be renting 2 or 3 vans for the trip
- May 12: Mother's Day pancake breakfast fundraiser at Blessed Sacrament

### **Other**

- Helping FF Team cover responsibilities for K-12 RE
- Helping at SH first communion celebration
- Facilitator for MAC group
- Continuing to advise other youth ministers on NCYC planning
- Speaker for the Catholic Daughters March gathering
- Working with parishes and CVCS to find 2020 confirmation dates
- Working with CVCS to bring TEC to Waterloo 19-20 school year - dates are March 14-16 at Blessed Maria.

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### **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.
- Preparing financial reports.
- Accounts payable.
- Helping FF Team cover responsibilities for K-12 RE.
- Working on the budget for 2018-2019.
- Working with a company (WeShare) to start an online registration process and online payments. Will do online registrations/payments for Summer RE.
- Contacting Catechists for Summer RE program at BMAP. Toured the BMAP building to determine rooms to use for summer RE. Have teachers set up for Summer RE. Working on an inservice for the Catechists, mailings for RE, Parent packets, etc...
- Working on setting up a training with FORMED for all Leaders from each Parish and the Faith Formation staff.
- Preparing to pack the office for our move to our new location.