

Star of the Sea Religious Education Program Newsletter

4420 Geary Blvd, San Francisco, CA 94118

Volume IV Issue VI

January 2012



Happy New Year Everyone!

I hope you all enjoyed your Christmas break. Thank you to everyone who participated in the Children's Christmas Eve mass as you all did a great job!

We have many exciting things ahead of us this coming year, so I hope you all take the time to read about upcoming events in the newsletter. The program calendar has been modified and updated with new events and details.

I look forward to continuing this journey of spirituality with you all.

God Bless,

Evie Fong

—Director of Religious Education

A New Year's Prayer

Author Unknown

May God make your year a happy one!

Not by shielding you from
all sorrows and pain,

But by strengthening you to bear it,
as it comes;

Not by making your path easy,
But by making you sturdy
to travel any path;

Not by taking hardships from you,

But by taking fear from your heart;

Not by granting you unbroken sunshine,
But by keeping your face bright, even in the
shadows;

Not by making your life always pleasant,
But by showing you when people and their
causes need you most,

and by making you anxious to be there to help.

God's love, peace, hope and joy
to you for the year ahead.

Amen.



Year of Renewal in Worship and Prayer:

The Lord's Prayer

The words which introduce the Lord's Prayer in the new English edition of the Roman Missal may sound dramatic: "At the Savior's command and formed by divine teachings we dare say:" Why do we "dare" to speak these words that are so familiar to us since childhood?

This invitation to prayer reminds us that it was Jesus who *dared* to call the Father "Abba"—a familiar form of addressing in Aramaic, the English equivalent of "papa."

The Our Father includes petitions that echo ancient Hebrew prayers and echo Jesus' teaching: trust in God's care, trust in God's will, and commit to forgiveness (receiving and granting).

During one of the Lenten Scrutinies, Catechumens are "presented" with the Our Father because learning the Lord's Prayer is a pre-requisite to the Church's initiation rites and is an avenue to full participation.

For many centuries, the celebrant alone prayed the "Pater Noster" in silence at the Mass, as if to continue the idea that this prayer was one of the privileged "secrets" known only to those enjoying full membership in the Church. Today it is recited or sung aloud by the assembly with the priest.

Question of the Week

- *How do certain words of the Lord's Prayer echo what is taking place throughout the Communion Rite?*



Parent Meetings for Sacramental Students

As students in the sacramental programs will be receiving the sacraments for the first time in upcoming months, there will be a lot of preparation for both students and families.

Parents are requested to attend preparatory meetings on the following dates:

For parents of First Reconciliation / Communion Students, the meeting will be on January 15, 2012 at 10:50am

For parents of Confirmation Students, the meeting will be on January 22, 2012 at 10:50am



Thank you to the following individuals for participating in the Christmas Eve Children's Mass:

Elena Tillman—Narrator

Claire Bye—First Reader

Kayla Lopez-Diaz—Second Reader

Arianna Tillman—Mary

Sean Sebers—Joseph

Xavier Tillman—Baby Jesus

Mary Bolla-Tillman—Angel

Adrianna Quintero—Angel

Alexz Miranda—Angel

Aleyna Gabriel—Angel

Isabella Mercado—Angel

Isabella Quezada—Angel

Ciara McGarry—Angel

Franco Rodrigo—Shepherd

Mikko Gabriel—Shepherd

Claudiel Garcia—Shepherd

Nicole Tupas Leal—Wiseman

Bianca Mercado—Wiseman

Sarah Bye—Wiseman

Alwyn Miranda—Animal

Aaliyah Atenga—Animal

Paulo Rodrigo—Animal

FORWARD IN FAITH

EDUCATIONAL ENRICHMENT FOR THE
THINKING CATHOLIC

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A THINKING CATHOLIC IN THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD?

Starting in January, the Archdiocese of San Francisco is offering a course designed to answer the very question.

This course will bring online presentations from the best theologians and teachers in the nation to illuminate Catholic teaching on Christ, the Church, the Sacraments, and the Christian moral life.

Meeting weekly from 7:00pm to 8:30pm in locations throughout the Archdiocese, including Star of the Sea, participants with gather to deepen their knowledge, share their lived faith and probe the questions that arise when adult Catholics grapple with the awesome mysteries of God's salvation.

To register, please fill out the form below and return it along with a check in the amount of \$50 (which covers the cost of the entire 20-week program), payable to Archdiocese of San Francisco.

Send to: Forward in Faith, Archdiocese of San Francisco, One Peter Yorke Way, San Francisco, CA 94109

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email address: _____

- Star of the Sea, San Francisco, Thursdays



**Sunday, January 29, 2012
Time: 10am to 2pm**

The Religious Education program will hold a White Elephant fundraiser on **Sunday, January 29 from 10am to 2pm** in the school auditorium.

If you have any items in good condition that you wish to donate, please drop them off at the CCD office by **Saturday, January 28 at 5pm**. Proceeds will go to support the Religious Education program. Any items that cannot be sold will be donated to Goodwill.

Sacramental Program Changes

Fr. Brian Costello, our pastor at Star of the Sea, encourages all students, especially the sacramental Prep students, to show their dedication and commitment to God by attending mass every Sunday.

Sacramental Prep students are required to show proof that they and their families are registered and supporting members at this or another parish. Being a supporting member of a parish means using the giving envelopes for collections at mass. It also means volunteering time and energy to help with parish organizations and events.

The Religious Education program is responsible for vouching for student's preparedness and need to ensure that our students are committed to God and ready to receive the sacraments.



Calendar

- January 8, 2012
Class Resumes
- January 15, 2012
Class / First Reconciliation and Communion Parent Meeting
- January 22, 2012
Class / Confirmation Parent Meeting
- January 29, 2012
Class / White Elephant Fundraiser
- February 5, 2012
Class/ Safe Environment Training 4-8
- February 12, 2012
Class
- February 19, 2012
No Class – President's Day
- February 22, 2012
Ash Wednesday
- February 26, 2012
Class
- March 3, 2012
First Reconciliation
- March 4, 2012
Class / (Quarter Drive)
- March 11, 2012
Class / Reconciliation Grades 3-8
- March 18, 2012
Class / **Safe Environment Reminder Deadline**
- March 25, 2012
Class
- April 1, 2012
Class / Palm Sunday / Procession of Palms
- April 6, 2012
Good Friday
- April 8, 2012
Easter Egg Hunt / No Class
- April 15, 2012
Class / Safe Environment Training Due
- April 22, 2012
Class
- April 29, 2012
Class
- May 5, 2012
First Communion
- May 6, 2012
Class / May Crowning
- May 13, 2012
Mother's Day Brunch/Graduation / Last Day of Religious Education
- May 20, 2012
Confirmation at St. Mary's Cathedral at 3:30pm