

**ISHPEMING AREA FAITH FORMATION
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & PASTORAL SERVICES
ANNUAL REPORT 2013-2014**

ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

St. John the Evangelist
Father Greg Heikkala
Molly Kierzek, Secretary
Laura Perrault
Julie Sarvello

St. Joseph Parish
Fr. Dan Moll
Deacon Steve Schaffer,
Nancy Decaire, Vice President
Tom Farley, President

STAFF MEMBERS

Administrator: Angela Johnson
Secretary: Jody Forrester
Youth Activity Coordinator: Rebecca LaChapelle
Youth & Intergenerational
Religious Education Coordinator: Melissa Pillifant
Sacramental Preparation Coordinator: Mary Turino

Marriage Prep: Parish priests coordinate
Pastoral Care: Larry Poissant coordinates through the Faith Formation Center
RCIA: Faith Formation Center coordinates
Baptismal Prep: Faith Formation Center coordinates
Grief Support: Sister Margey Schmelzle coordinates through the Faith Formation Center

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

- **Weekly Classes:** Monday nights for K – 12th graders, 24 sessions from Sept. 9, 2013 to May 12, 2014
(2 classes cancelled – due to weather)
Students participating in weekly K-8 Religious Ed: St. John St. Joseph other
124 total students (77 percent of all possible) 51 of possible 66 66 of possible 85 7

** See attached report for details*

- **High School Mini courses:** 9th – 12th graders,
Total high school students participated St. John- 0; St. Joseph- 4; and St. Paul- 1

- **Sacramental Programs (children):**

First Reconciliation held Thursday March 20, 2014 at St. Joseph Church

***Recognition Sunday** – Introducing candidates to the parish May 4, 2014 at both parishes

First Holy Communion held Sunday May 18, 2014 at St. John Church

| | St. John the Evangelist | St. Joseph | St. Paul-St. Augustine Sacred Heart |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|------------|--|
| Total 22 participants | | | |
| Grade 2 | 7 | 10 | 1 |
| Grade 3 | 1 | 1 | |
| Grade 4 | | 1 | |
| Grade 5 | | 1 | |

(Two additional students prepared for the Sacraments with us, but received First Communion in Republic.)

Catechetical Sessions for Sacramental Preparation (Held for students and parents)

| | |
|---|------------------------|
| Orientation | Monday, Sept. 9, 2013 |
| Baptism & Introduction to Sacrament of Reconciliation | Sunday, Jan. 19, 2014 |
| Sacrament of Reconciliation-Review & proper reception | Sunday, Feb. 16, 2014 |
| Sacrament of Eucharist - Introduction | Sunday, April 27, 2014 |
| Review and Proper Reception of the Eucharist | Sunday, May 4, 2014 |
| Practice for First Holy Communion | Thursday, May 14, 2014 |

- **Pre-Baptism:** Preparation sessions offered quarterly to couples and God parents

Couples attending the preparation session (# attended of possible #)

| | Aug. 2013 | Oct. 2013 | Jan. 2014 | April 2014 |
|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| St. John | 0 of 2 | 0 of 3 | 1 of 2 | 2 of 5 |
| St. Joseph | 0 of 0 | 1 of 1 | 0 of 0 | 0 of 0 |

Note: This number does not reflect the actual number of baptisms that took place in the parishes.

PASTORAL CARE MINISTRY

- **Grief Support:** Eight monthly meetings held on the third Wednesday of the month.
- **Ministry to Homebound & Nursing Home Parishioners:**
 - **First Friday Mass** is held at both the Mather and Valente Nursing Homes. Seventeen total volunteers along with the two priests who alternate between the two facilities. A social follows.
 - **Nursing Home Volunteers-** Six people visit both the Mather and Valente Nursing Homes weekly bringing communion. Parishioners number: Mather 28; Valente 37
 - **Weekly visits to the Homebound:** Two ministers visited: St. John- 4 ; St. Joseph- 8
 - **Annual Mass and Anointing of the Sick:** Held at St. Joseph’s Church on Thursday, Sept. 26, 2013. A soup luncheon follows. Volunteers: 35-40; participants: 50-plus

CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME

Six total sessions held on Thursday evenings during Lent : March 6 – April 10: Four ministers, three participants

CELEBRATIONS

| | |
|------------------------|----------------|
| Catechetical Sunday | Sept. 15, 2013 |
| Class Night Open House | Dec. 9, 2013 |

FAITH FORMATION STAFF CONTINUING EDUCATION

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|---|
| Fall Catechetical Gathering | Oct. 11, 2013 | Catechist In-service Attended by: Angela Johnson |
| Spring Study Day | April 10, 2014 | Topic: Bishop Baraga’s First Pastoral Letter Presented by Fr. Corey Litzner, Deacon John Cadeau Attended by: Angela Johnson, Melissa Pillifant, Becca LaChapelle |
| Faith Formation Coordinator Training | June 8-12, 2014 | Marygrove Retreat Center – Angela Johnson |

FAITH FORMATION STAFF CONTINUING EDUCATION (continued)

Webinars – ongoing catechesis/professional development attended by Angela Johnson

- 1.) **Growing the Next Generation of Disciples through Small Groups** by Christopher Wesley, Aug.20, 2013
- 2.) **The Spiritual Formation of Catechists: 10 Simple Ways to Transform Volunteers into Witnesses** by Jared Dees, Sept.17, 2013
- 3.) **The Spirituality of Administration: Turning Mundane Tasks into Redeeming Work** by Ann Garrido, Oct. 15, 2013
- 4.) **Faith Formation for Families with Six Sacred Rules** by Tim and Sue Muldoon, Nov. 5, 2013
- 5.) **Where Two or Three are Texting: Incarnation and Sacrament in a Virtual World** by Jonathan F. Sullivan Feb. 18, 2014

Melissa Pillifant participated in weekly catechist formation with Fr. Ryan Ford at Fr. Marquette School. She also took part in two – half day retreats for catechists at Fr. Marquette School.

CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR CATECHISTS

Catechist Training

Mini workshop to familiarize the teachers with the curriculum in August 2013; Catechists are also encouraged to participate in the monthly Together in Faith sessions which include adult teachings.

**No Echoes of Faith session offered.*

SAFE ENVIRONMENT AND VIRTUS

Safe Environment VIRTUS training for adult volunteers at St. Louis the King Church (Harvey)

Sept. 16, 2013

Safe Environment VIRTUS training for adult volunteers at Fr. Marquette Elementary School

Oct. 14, 2013

Safe Environment Training and Christian Chastity Training for students was conducted and the necessary reporting completed.

March 10, 2014 (Grades 1, 5-8)