

**ISHPEMING AREA FAITH FORMATION
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & PASTORAL SERVICES
ANNUAL REPORT 2014-2015**

ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

St. John the Evangelist
Father Larry Van Damme
Amy Peters
Julie Sarvello

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

Angela Johnson, Secretary

STAFF MEMBERS

Administrator: Angela Johnson
Secretary: Jody Forrester
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, 25 sessions from Sept. 8, 2014 to May 11, 2015
(Note- Two classes cancelled due to snow days/Inclement weather)
- | | | | |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Students participating in weekly K-8 Religious Ed: | St. John | St. Joseph | other |
| 118 total students (78 percent of all possible) | 58 of possible 74 | 54 of possible 71 | 6 |

* See attached report for details

- **High School Students :** 9th – 12th graders, Total possible students St. John- 44, St. Joseph-50, St. Paul-2
Total participated St. John- 2; St. Joseph- 4; St. Paul-1
- **Sacramental Programs (children):**
First Reconciliation held Thursday March 3, 2015 at St. John Church
Introduction Sunday – Introducing candidates to the parish April 26, 2015 at both parishes
First Holy Communion held Sunday May 3, 2015 at St. Joseph Church

	St. John the Evangelist	St. Joseph	St. Paul St. Michael
Total 23 participants			
Grade 2	8	7	2
Grade 3	1	1	
Grade 4	2		
Grade 6	1	1	

Confirmation: April 19, 2015 at St. Peters Cathedral-Thomas Seablom

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

Orientation	Monday, Sept. 8, 2014
First Reconciliation Retreat	Saturday, Feb. 21, 2015
First Communion Retreat	Saturday, April 25, 2015
First Communion practice, review proper reception	Thursday, April 30, 2015

INTERGENERATIONAL PROGRAMS

- **Together in Faith Sessions:** Held the fourth Monday of every month September through April- 8 sessions
Average participation at Together in Faith:

	St. John the Evangelist	St. Joseph	other
<i>Families</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Parishioners</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>1</i>

Sept. 22, 2014	The Sacraments and Grace (Greg Gostomski)
Oct. 27, 2014	Baptism (Steve Schaffer)
Nov. 24, 2014	Confirmation (Fr. Corey Litzner)
Dec. 15, 2014	Eucharist (DVD presentation)
Jan. 26, 2015	Reconciliation (DVD presentation)
Feb. 23, 2015	Vocations and Discernment (Fr. Ben Hasse)
March 23, 2015	Marriage and Holy Orders (Fr. Dan Moll)
April 27, 2015	Anointing of the Sick (Fr. Greg Heikkala)
- **Living Activities** (Students learn about and then lead prayers for all parishioners)

Oct. 13, 2014	Living Rosary (Class night-families encouraged to attend)
March 29, 2015	Living Stations of the Cross (Practice-Sunday, March 22, 2015)
- **Youth Activities**

Aug. 12 – 15, 2014	Vacation Bible School at St. Joseph Church (Pilgrimage to Distant Lands and Holy Places) (35 Children, 12 teen volunteers, 2 adult support)
Jan. 31-Feb 1, 2015	Souper Bowl Sunday – Collected \$643 for local food/outreach charities
Feb. 6, 2015	P2K – One day session (Angela Johnson – chaperone, Austin Pierpont)
Feb. 23, 2015	Vocations Awareness Activity for grades 6 through 8 – (together in faith activity) 10 students present
June 7-June 12, 2015	Totus Tuus (Vacation Bible School) *New program/team Total participants – Day time k -5 th grade: 63; Evenings 6 th -12 th grade: 18

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

- **James** Completed 11 sessions. Two groups (Monday afternoon and Wednesday evening) a total of 32 participants plus 3 home-study
- **Psalms** Completed 11 sessions. Two groups (Monday afternoon and Wednesday evening) a total of 32 participants plus 2 home-study
- **General Ongoing Adult Ed** Provided free audio cd's on topics specific to the sacraments for this year's Together in Faith themes, as well as Catholicism in general; Purchased books to add to our adult library based on each of the Together in Faith subjects. Created two parish inserts to refresh people on the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Mass attendance.

ADULT SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS

- **RCIA:** Two Inquiries held: 10/22/14, 11/5/14

Regular Catechesis for 4 adults, 2 children. Easter Sacraments received April 4, 2015

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

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

	Aug. 2014	Oct. 2014	Jan. 2015	April 2015
St. John	1 of 3	0 of 0	0 of 1	1 of 3
St. Joseph	1 of 1	0 of 0	1 of 1	0 of 0

*October cancelled – No baptisms scheduled at that time

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- 4
 - **Annual Mass and Anointing of the Sick:** Held at St. Joseph Church on Thursday, Sept. 25, 2014. A soup luncheon follows. Volunteers: 35-40; participants: 50-plus

CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME

To be held 2015-2016

CELEBRATIONS

Catechetical Sunday

Sept. 21, 2014

FAITH FORMATION STAFF CONTINUING EDUCATION

Fall Catechetical Gathering	Oct. 4, 2014	Pope Francis and the New Evangelization: 10 things Pope Francis wants you to know Attended by: Angela Johnson, Melissa Pillifant, Jody Forrester
Spring Study Day	March 26, 2015	Sacred Heart of Jesus: Consecration 101 Presented by Fr. Corey Litzner, Fr. Marty Flynn, Deacon Steve Schaffer and Jackie Gretzinger Attended by: Angela Johnson, Mary Turino, Jody Forrester

Faith formation staff and continuing Education continued page 4

Hospitality Lecture

May 28, 2015

Beginning Apologetics

Presented by Dr. Alan Shreck

Attended by: Angela Johnson, Melissa Pillifant, Mary Turino,
Jody Forrester

FAITH FORMATION STAFF CONTINUING EDUCATION (continued)

Faith Formation Coordinator Training

Mary Grove Retreat – June 8-12, 2014

Angela Johnson

Melissa Pillifant participated 20 hours through Fr. Marquette School.

CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR CATECHISTS

Catechist Training

Mini workshop to familiarize the teachers with the curriculum in August 2014; 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. 15, 2014

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

Oct. 14, 2014

Safe Environment VIRTUS training for
adult volunteers at St Michael Parish

Jan. 6, 2015

**Angela Johnson also hosted individual training session for adult volunteers as needed.*

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

March 2, 2015 (Grades 1, 5-8)