



# Faith Formation News

A newsletter for families of Blessed Sacrament  
October 2017

## Welcome to Sarah Kalonick, our new Youth and Young Adult Minister



*We are so blessed to welcome Sarah Kalonick as our new Youth & Young Adult Minister! Sarah's shown working last year on music with our youth.*

Greetings, dear families of Blessed Sacrament! My name is Sarah Kalonick, and I want to thank you for welcoming me to be a part of your parish as the Youth Minister. I'm originally from Huntington, WV and first came to Minnesota as a missionary with the organization NET Ministries, based out of West St. Paul. It was there that my life was transformed in ways I didn't know it could be. I was formed in how to have a personal, living, *daily* relationship with Jesus, for we were encouraged to remember that "we can't give what we don't have". After many weeks of training, praying and receiving the sacraments frequently, I was then sent, with a team of 10 other young adults, to share this Love, the Good News, with teens across the country. For three more years, I served on NET staff, supervising missionaries which was a truly blessed time in my life.

Since then, I have had a missionary heart, better understanding the call we all have as Christians to live and share Jesus and His love for us that brings unspeakable joy. I've served as a teacher's aide for students with special needs and as a nurse assistant in hospice. These jobs allowed me to serve and grow in love and receive love in great ways. In the evenings, I would be able to go to daily Mass and continue serving, discipling, and leading praise and worship for

*Continued on Page 3*

### Coming Up:

**Oct. 11:** Faith Formation Class #3 and **Evangelium class for adults** with Fr. Erickson 6:30 - 7:45

**Oct. 15:** **Family Trip to St. Paul's Monastery** to visit Our Lady of Fatima shrine Noon - 2 pm

**Oct. 15:** **Information Meeting for Youth Mission Trip** at 6:30 pm at St. Pascal's Church.

**Oct. 16:** Last day to let Julie know if you'll be attending Archdiocesan Youth Day

**Oct. 18:** No Faith Formation class because of MEA break

**Oct. 24:** Parish Movie Night "The Case for Christ" (PG) 6:30 - 8:30 pm in Robertson Room

**Oct. 25:** We pray the **Rosary of Light** during our class session.

**Oct. 25:** Faith Formation class #4 and Evangelium class for adults 6:30 - 7:45

**Oct. 28:** Archdiocesan Youth Day for High Schoolers. 12:30 - 9:00 pm at RiverCentre

**Nov. 1:** **All Saints Day Mass** NEW THIS YEAR: All students are invited to dress up as saints for our "Meet the Saints" event.

## Who is Our Lady of Fatima?



The Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God, appeared six times to three shepherd children, Lúcia Santos and her cousins Jacinta and Francisco Marto, between May 13 and October 13, 1917, in the little village of Fatima, Portugal. Our Lady came with a message from God to every man, woman, and child, promising that the whole world would be in peace and that many souls would go to Heaven if people would pray the rosary. As a great sign of the whole message truly coming from God, a marvelous

miracle was worked in the sky above Fatima on October 13, 1917. 70,000 people gathered in a field near Fatima because the three young shepherd children had predicted that at high noon the "lady" who had appeared to them several times would perform a great miracle there. According to many witnesses, after a period of rain, the dark clouds broke and "the sun" appeared as an opaque, spinning disc in the sky. It was said to be significantly duller than normal, and to cast multicolored lights across the landscape, the people, and the surrounding clouds. All could stare perfectly at the sun without blinking, or even hurting their eyes. While all were watching the sun, it rotated, got large and small, got close to the people, and got far away from them. The sun "danced". All who were there testified to seeing the sun dance, even non-believers who immediately dropped onto their knees and begged for forgiveness.



### 100th Anniversary Celebration of Our Lady of Fatima Apparitions This Friday, October 13



**5:15 p.m.** - Mass with Archbishop Hebda at the Cathedral of St. Paul

**6:30 p.m.** - Gather at the State Capitol for the Candlelight Rosary Procession to the Cathedral

This Friday, October 13, the whole world will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the apparitions of Our Lady at Fatima, Portugal. On that day, Archbishop Bernard Hebda will reconsecrate our Archdiocese to Our Lady's Immaculate Heart.

# Family Bike Outing

to St. Paul's Monastery  
 Sunday, October 15th  
 Noon - 2:00 pm



## All families welcome!

- Leave at noon from Blessed Sacrament Church
- Bike to St. Paul's Monastery in Maplewood (about 3 miles)
- Pray the rosary at their shrine to Our Lady of Fatima
- Hear the story of the children of Fatima and how they were visited by Mary in 1917 - a hundred years ago!
- Short tour of the Monastery with Sr. Mary Lou
- Have a treat and then bike back to Blessed Sacrament (return about 2:00)
- BE SURE TO WEAR YOUR HELMET!
- If it's raining, we will drive in cars instead. Families who prefer not to bike are welcome to meet us at the Monastery at 12:30.
- To sign up, contact Julie at [jtaylor@blessedsacramentsp.org](mailto:jtaylor@blessedsacramentsp.org) or 651-738-0677, ext. 14 by Friday, Oct. 13.

## Welcome to Sarah Kalonick (continued from Page 1)

the youth at All Saints in Lakeville.

I first came to know this parish through my friend, Fr. Chad VanHoose (a fellow Appalachian), and I am grateful he helped bring me to a parish community that made me feel like I have a home away from home. Your community has something special, something set apart about it.

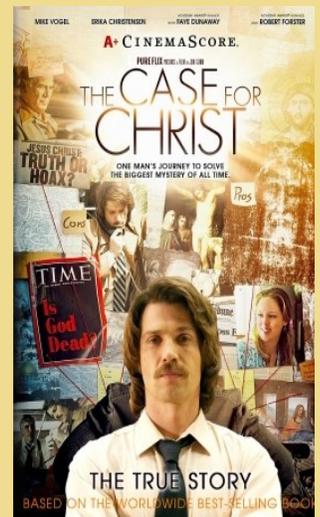
As I see the youth, so talented and involved, investing time in their education, learning instruments, playing sports, coming to faith formation, some even holding jobs, the scripture verse John 10:10 comes to mind: "I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly". With lives already filled with such good things, things that I too recall being a part of my life at their age, my hope is that youth ministry will not turn out to be another thing to do, but in all that we do, they will encounter Christ, the One who fulfills this desire in us for an abundant life, more than what the world can bring. Please hold me in prayer and I will be praying for you and your family.

## Parish Movie Night

Tuesday, October 24 at 6:30 pm

# The Case for Christ

Based on a true story, an investigative journalist and self-proclaimed atheist sets out to disprove the existence of God after his wife becomes a Christian. Presented by the Women's Club, and open to everyone. Rated PG; appropriate for ages 13 and up. Free!



# Blessing of the Animals on the Feast of St. Francis



Happy Feast of St. Francis! On October 4th, in honor of the patron saint of animals, Deacon Jerry blessed the animals of our Faith Formation families, both those who were present and those who were represented in pictures.



## Looking ahead to All Saints Day on November 1<sup>st</sup>

Instead of regular lessons this evening, the Faith Formation students will be participating in 6:30 Mass with their families (as well as filling the liturgical roles as musicians, lector, etc.). We've loved honoring and learning about the saints through our annual Saints Family Night, so this year we'll be doing a condensed version where **we invite our students (not just the older ones) to dress as a favorite saint**. After Mass, families and parishioners can mingle and learn about the saints.

Most saint costumes can be made with sheets and towels, shawls and skirts. We invite you to brainstorm with your child about who they'd like to be! If you're looking for ideas, google "saint costumes for children" and there are lots of ideas. But even if they don't dress up, please come to All Saints Day Mass to celebrate and meet the saints!



*9th Graders and Sarah dress up as their favorite saints last year: St. Maximilian Kolbe, St. Cecilia, St. Joseph, and Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati*

## Welcome to Our New Babies

If you notice more babies around here on Wednesday evenings, it's because three of our Faith Formation families welcomed new babies into their families this past spring and summer: the Dominguez family welcomed Rocco, the Marich-Henk family welcomed Silas, and the Martinez-Cruz family welcomed Emma. Congratulations to parents and siblings, and welcome to our church, little ones!



# Classroom Update



*Introducing ourselves in CGS Level I*

## **CGS Level I (Preschool/Kindergarten)**

**Lead Catechist: Sally Strasser**

**Asst. Catechists: Deb Tillges & Rachel Villneuve**

In our first few weeks of class we've learned about the Good Shepherd and what a Shepherd does for his sheep, as well as the items on the altar that are used during Mass. This week we'll be learning the colors of the liturgical year. We are continuing with practical life items also. Every week we meet at the prayer table to start and end our class time, and are working on the Hail Mary and the Sign of the Cross with holy water. You are welcome to visit if you'd like!

## **CGS Level II (Grades 1 - 3)**

**Lead Catechist: Jill Kleidon**

**Asst. Catechists: Kathy Donovan, Kim Roush, and Joan Reese-Urban**

Level II of CGS is growing strong with 14 students. A very special "Thank You!" to all last and this year's 1<sup>st</sup> Communicant's parents for bringing your children back to the Atrium. We have started the year learning about how much time, love and forethought our Lord spent creating this wonderful universe for us. They are learning that it is our job to be great followers of the teachings of Jesus and they write the future until Parousia when Jesus comes again.

## **Grade 4**

**Catechist: Nicole Villneuve**

In 4th grade we will be learning about the Ten Commandments and the Beatitudes, but we're starting by learning about how God reveals Himself to us through His Son, through the Scriptures, and through the Church.



*Grade 4 is ready for a great year of learning about the Ten Commandments and the Beatitudes!*

## **Grade 5**

**Catechist: Joe Wappes**

So far this year, in the fifth grade classroom, we have learned that God has given us the Bible as a way to communicate to us, and to show us who he is and why he created us. We've been learning that the Old Testament shows us God's revealing love. Also, we are learning about God's message through Our Lady of Fatima: the message of Merciful Love and repentance.

## **Grade 6**

**Catechists Cathy Shannon and Carrie Stout**

The 6th grade students are learning about how God reveals Himself to us through Scripture (the Bible) and Tradition (our beliefs and practices as Catholics, which have been guided by the Holy Spirit). They have learned that God most fully revealed Himself to us through His Son, Jesus Christ, and they looked at ways our class could be an example of Christ's love for others through service projects. We discussed what it means to be a saint and will be picking a saint for our class this week.



*Grade 7/8 warms up with a quick game before diving into the bigger questions of life*

**Grade 7 & 8**

**Catechist: Peter Vande Hey**

Our class has been learning about how life's great question is "What is the right way to live?" We make tons of choices every day that reflect the way we answer that central question. Mother Church has given us four tools to help us make the right choice: prudence, justice, temperance, and fortitude. This culminates in the natural law: do not infringe on anyone or their property, and do all that you have agreed to do. This is the right way to live.

**Grade 9**

**Catechists: Tom Regan and Jennifer Tuckner**

In Grade 9 we've been beginning our preparation for Confirmation next year by viewing and discussing videos from the Chosen curriculum (you can see a sample on their website at [www.confirmationstudy.com](http://www.confirmationstudy.com)). In the first three sessions, we've been discussing some big questions: "Why am I here?", "What makes us happy?", and "What's your story, God?" as we learn that God as the source of all happiness and how God has worked in salvation history.

**Grade 10**

**Catechists: Sarah Kalonick and Sydney March**

The 10<sup>th</sup> grade Confirmation class has been learning about the 7 gifts of the Holy Spirit and how these powerful gifts, not apparent to the eye, are discovered and can bring such grace to our life if only we "open" them. We also learned about the life of St. Francis of Assisi on his feast day and had a religious sister join our class who is part of a Franciscan community. She shared how St. Francis' love of the Eucharist inspires her to awaken that reality of how sweet it is to receive Jesus in Holy Communion.

## Sunday Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

**Lead Catechist: Julie Taylor**

**Asst. Catechist: Renae Kuettler**

This year for the first time we're offering Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Level I on Sunday mornings from 10:00 - 11:30 am. This is a great option for families who find that Wednesday evening is a little difficult with their children's sleep schedules. It's a small class so far, but we've enjoyed learning about how the Good Shepherd cares for His sheep, the names for what's used on the altar during Mass, and the liturgical colors of the church year. We'd welcome new students, as well as any Wednesday evening Level 1 students who would like to join us as their parents attend 10:30 Mass!

PRAYER

Sharing the riches of the Catholic Faith

# EVANGELIUM

CREED

MORALS



SACRAMENTS

**Wednesdays**  
**6:30—7:45 pm**  
 Beginning October 11th  
 Blessed Sacrament  
 Robertson Room  
**Cost: Free**

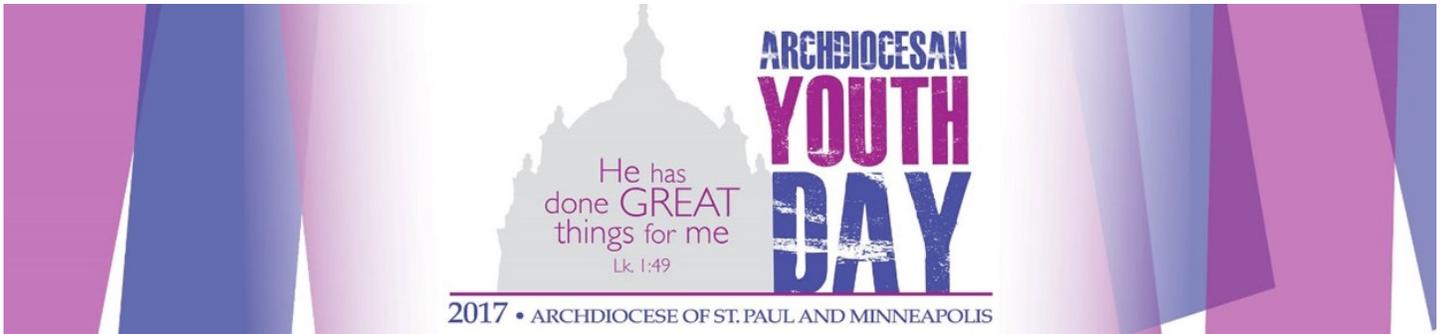
Join Fr. John Paul Erickson as he leads an exploration of the four pillars of the Catholic faith through art in this amazing course:

- Explore the full panorama of the Catholic faith using the Evangelium series.
- Survey the enduring realities of our faith through its most beautiful art and music.
- This course is for all adults, from those new to the faith to those with a lifetime's experience.
- Sessions take place on evenings when Faith Formation is in session.



**No registration necessary.**  
**Come for one session or come for them all!**

For more info, contact Julie Taylor at 651-738-0677, ext. 14.



Join a group of Blessed Sacrament high school students at Archdiocesan Youth Day!

**Saturday, October 28**

**12:30 – 9:00 pm**

**RiverCentre in downtown St. Paul**

Amazing music, fun activities, moving talks, Eucharistic Adoration & Mass!

Cost of \$15 includes dinner

**Let Julie know by Monday, October 16** if you'd like to come

at [jtaylor@blessedsacramentsp.org](mailto:jtaylor@blessedsacramentsp.org) or (651) 738-0677, ext. 14.



**Blessed Sacrament/St. Pascal's**

**Youth Mission Trip to**

**Huntingburg, Indiana**

**July 15 - 22, 2018**

Join a group of parish youth as we head out this July to serve in Huntingburg, Indiana. In addition to home repairs and painting, we'll also be working with a day care and food bank. On the way to Indiana we'll do some sightseeing, as well as enjoying a free day in Nashville at the end of the week to explore.

Who: Youth currently in Grades 8 and up

Cost: Approx. \$500 (\$100 deposit due Nov. 15)

Contact Sarah or Julie for more information.

Information Meeting on  
 Sunday, October 15  
 6:30 - 8:00 pm  
 St. Pascal's Church