

This Week In Our Catechism Class

PRIMARY: This week we talked about the sign of the cross, and explained the meaning. We also practiced how to carefully make the sign of the cross, and incorporated it into a game.

YEAR 1: The year one catechists spent this week learning about how we speak to God through prayer. The children are working on memorizing the Lord's Prayer - they are doing a great job. We also talked about the special relationship that Jesus had with his Father, and the special love that we all have for our own dads. We briefly talked about Lent and Easter, which will be our main focus for the next several weeks.

YEAR 2: Our Year 2's are discussing what stories, seasons and symbols the Church uses to celebrate Jesus' birth. We learned what happens on Ash Wednesday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday. We made a calendar of the 40 days of Lent and discussed what Lent is. A Hail Mary Prayer card was handed out to the children as well as a CD games for the computer.

YEAR 3: This week we continued our talk about disciples and began talking about how the Spirit of God is among us. We learned about how the "Ruah" of God surrounds us everyday. Please keep going over the Reconciliation sheets and the Act of Contrition.

YEAR 4: We discovered that there are sacred places and times that are to be respected and treated differently than ordinary times and places. We compared some of the Jewish sacred times and places to our own and found some similarities.

YEAR 5: We focused on creation as an aspect of God's covenant. The children reflected on the state of our world and the environment and how we view this as a breach of God's covenant. We listen to a story of creation from the peoples of the Northern Plains and

The Act of Contrition

Years 2 - 4

Dear God,
Because you are so good,
I am sorry for all of my sins.
Help me to change my heart
and live like Jesus.

Amen



Ash Wednesday Masses are at 4:00 and 7:30 on February 17, so Catechism classes are cancelled to allow children to attend Mass.

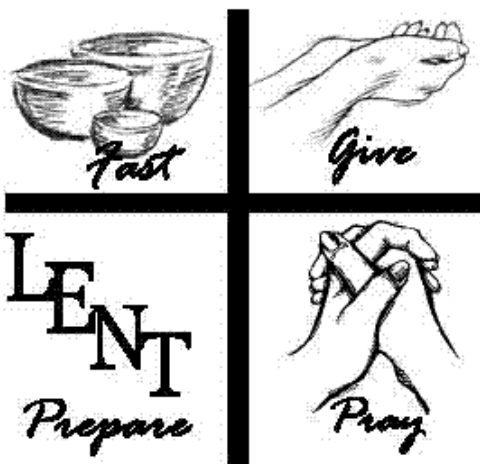
how their story was similar to ours in many ways. We also learned how the story of creation, of giving new life, relates to us as we enter into Lent. We played a fun word game to refresh our memories about Lent and the coming Easter season. The children should be practicing for Reconciliation on February 24th.

YEAR 6: The Year 6 class learned about the Beatitudes. We read from the book of Matthew, how Jesus gave us the Sermon on the Mount. We discussed how we are called to use our gifts of the Holy Spirit to live and practice the Beatitudes.

YEAR 7: This week Year 7 students played with LEGO! Actually, we used Lego to learn a valuable lesson -- you can build things without the instructions, but it is way easier with them! It is just like life -- you can go through without the Bible (life's instructions) but it is a lot better with God's Word to guide you!

YEAR 9: We have completed Module 4 "Recognizing the Holy Spirit in Your Life". The objectives help teens gain a greater understanding of the symbols of the Holy Spirit and the meaning of the Church; recognize the power the Spirit gives us; and recognize the Spirit's work in the lives of others.

We began Module 5 "Receiving the Gifts of the Holy Spirit". This lesson helps teens understand more fully the gifts of the Spirit and how they can use these gifts to follow Jesus and serve others. Copies of the "Rights of Enrollments" for Confirmation were handed out for the teens to read and prepare at home.



Reconciliation Notice

On February 24,
Years 3, 4, and 5 are to go
directly to St. Rose of Lima church
for a Reconciliation service,
instead of to GP Vanier for
Catechism classes.

Parents are encouraged to stay for the
Reconciliation service with their children.

The Act of Contrition

Years 5-9

My God,
I am sorry for my sins with all my heart.
In choosing to do wrong
and failing to do good,
I have sinned against you
whom I ought to love above all things.
With your help, I will do penance,
sin no more,
and avoid those occasions
that could lead me to sin.
Jesus Christ suffered and died for our sins.
In Jesus' name forgive me.

Amen