

Church of the Resurrection

2011-2012

Generations of Faith Description

Serve the Lord
Go do it!

Value Every Life



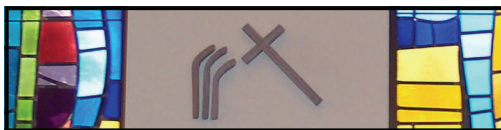
Stand Together



Seek Justice



Feed the Hungry



Care for Creation



Generations of Faith (GOF) is an approach to faith formation that equips the parish to become a community of learning by creating lifelong faith formation that is centered in the events of church life, embraces all ages and generations, and promotes faith growth at home, through parish preparation programs, and most importantly, through participation in the Eucharist.

What is Generations of Faith (GOF)?

At Resurrection, it is our goal to offer opportunities for the entire parish family to learn, grow, share, and become disciples of Jesus. Our faith formation includes: GOF Expanding Horizons, GOF Parish Nights, GOF Going Deeper Nights, GOF Service Nights, GOF Nights and Sacramental Preparation. In September, we have a Kick-off event and GOF Expanding Horizons to introduce the theme for the year. We meet on Wednesday nights September-April.

EXPANDING HORIZONS

Expanding Horizons are interactive stations or displays set up in the Great Hall. A variety of media are used to convey basic information, assist in the experience of the mysteries of our faith, and open our eyes to intriguing and exciting aspects of faith we have not yet considered. Expanding Horizons explore and support the Parish Night themes. There are three levels of activities: Adults (grades 10 and older), Youth (Grades 5-9), and Children (Grades 1-4).

PARISH NIGHTS

Parish Night is a time for individual households to gather with their parish family to pray and learn together. Each parish night includes a meal, opening and closing prayer, and teaching on a chosen theme with break-out sessions for specific age groups.

The Parish Night begins with all coming together for opening prayer in the main church. This lasts about 15-20 minutes and includes Scripture reading and song. We then move to age-specific sessions that last about 45 minutes. Adults remain in the main church with Fr. Kevin or Fr. Shawn and children are dismissed by age groups to the Great Hall and classrooms. Next, those adults with children in grades 1-9 present join their children in the Great Hall for family time. All other adults remain with the priest in the main church and discuss the same topics. At the end of family time, all gather at the Baptismal font in the Gathering Space for a closing prayer or song. A meal is served in the Great Hall for 1/2 hour on Sundays following the GOF program and on Wednesdays before the GOF program.

PARISH NIGHTS cont.

Age Specific Breakout Sessions

Adults (grade 10 and older)

All adults, young and old, with and without children, are the focus of Father Kevin's and Father Shawn's teaching sessions. They use the Bible and the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* as the foundation for their comments, adding their own unique insights and style. In the same night, parents also spend 15 minutes with their children (grades 1-9) to share what they have learned in a family style activity.

Youth

Grades 6-8 During this time a variety of activities will be done in large and small group formats.

Grade 9 Meet with grades 6-8 until they form their faith-sharing groups in February, 2012. At that time they will join the adult session.

Grade 10 Participate with the adult group.

Children

In grades 1-5, for 45 minutes, the children are instructed using various activities on the evening's topic. Following a large group presentation, the children will further divide into two groups: grades 1, 2, 3 and grades 4, 5.

Pre-school

Ages 3, 4, 5 meet for 1 hour and have a lesson based on the topic for the parish night. The time is structured similar to our Sunday School classes and includes a variety of activities.

Family Time

At the end of the age-specific time, the parents will join their children in the Great Hall for about 15 minutes to discuss what they've learned. Adults who do not have children in grades 1 through 9 present stay together for discussion of the same questions at an adult level.

Home Kit Materials

Materials supporting the main topic, suitable for all ages, are available on Parish Nights. You choose which materials appeal to you. These resources are provided in hopes that the information will encourage and assist you in continuing the conversation at home, offer helpful suggestions for family or individual activities, and deepen your knowledge of the Catholic faith.

SERVICE NIGHTS

GOF Service Nights, held on specific Wednesday nights, are a new way that we are made aware of some of the needs of our community and how we can make a difference. We will challenge the parish to join in and support causes that embrace our call to justice for all. Together, our efforts will enhance the lives of people who are in need. Information about other service opportunities that take place throughout the community will be publicized.

GOING DEEPER NIGHTS

The purpose of Going Deeper is to provide an opportunity to clarify and reach a deeper understanding of the selected parish night themes in a more informal setting. These sessions allow time for peer groups to reflect and enter into discussion based on the parish night topics, even if they were unable to attend.

Adults

Going Deeper for adults may include: informal question & answer sessions with either the pastor, resident associate, or invited speakers; movies with a message; discussion with area experts, or videos of experts on the topic. Following the presentation is a time of small or large group discussions.

Youth

Going Deeper for Middle School and High School will be 25 minutes for large group, 25 minutes for small groups, followed by a 10 minute social activity. It is a time to delve deeper into our topics by exploring, asking, and participating in activities that are designed for the youth group experience.

Children

Going Deeper for children includes a large group teaching and fun activities, such as crafts, videos, and music. We will explore and learn more about how to be a better follower of Jesus as it relates to the theme of the year.

GOF NIGHTS

GOF Nights are new this year for everyone! For those in sacrament preparation, these Wednesday nights will be a combination of meetings and learning centers for grades 2, 9, 10 and their parents. For those NOT taking sacramental preparation, a blend of scripture study, adoration, & other activities will be offered at the same time. We will have breakout sessions for grades 1-5, 6-9, and 10th-adult.

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

Sacramental Preparation

Preparation for First Reconciliation, First Communion, and Confirmation involves participation in GOF activities as well as additional sessions. Preparation for 1st Reconciliation/1st Communion includes learning centers on these topics. Children who attend public school attend designated Tuesday classes. Confirmation prep includes learning centers, faith sharing groups and service projects.

Sunday School

For children ages 3, 4, 5, classes are held during the 8:30 and 10:00 Masses on selected Sundays, October-April. Registration is required. We learn about Jesus and our Catholic faith through a variety of activities.

Bible Study

Adult and Youth scripture study opportunities are offered. Currently, adult groups meet on Thursdays, and the youth group meets on Sunday evenings.

Visit our website for more details and updates:
www.resurrection-catholic.org