

Religious Education Newsletter

Queen of Apostles Community

February 2016

What is happening in February!

- Youth Mass
- Bowling with the Jr. High!
- First Eucharist Bake Sale!
- Ash Wednesday

Come to our Youth Mass on February 7th!

On Sunday February 7th we will have our final Mass before we enter the season of Lent. This year the 7th-8th grade class will be planning the liturgy along with a youth choir. This is always a wonderful and joyous Mass.

With the QAC community aging it emphasizes how important it is for us to nurture our families with children here at Queen of Apostles. When we have the opportunity to do youth centered liturgy it reminds us the gifts of involving our youth in our greater community. It is wonderful to have classes and events just for them, but as Catholics and especially as Marianist Catholics it is important for everyone to be invited to the table.

Historically, Queen of Apostles has always been good at being inclusive to all people. We model discipleship of equals, an important part of the Marianist Charism, by the way we plan, discuss, and celebrate this community. Because of that, it has always been a priority to involve our children at every level of interaction in this parish. From our children helping to plan their own First Eucharist Mass, to our 14 year olds being old enough to vote on

important issues being decided at our community meetings. We have always welcomed them.

This is such an important piece. Because, not only does honor the way we approach our children in this community now and in the past, but it also encourages and sets the expectations for the future. We often hear people say “the children are our future”. But what we also often fail to realize is they are more importantly “our right now”. Right now they want to pray with us, sing with us, learn from us, and be guided by us. Just as are our young adults, adults in

their 40's, 50's, 60's, 70's, 80's and 90's. We are all the right now of our church, our community. We are celebrating in a way that allows us all to participate, pray, and feel included. In this way we can all connect as the body of Christ.

So please come to Mass on the 7th. Celebrate with us, sing with us, pray with us, be community with us.

Peace,

Maggie



First Eucharist Bake Sale! February 14th

Each year the 1st Communion class holds their bake sale, which raises funds to purchase a gift for the QAC community from the 1st Communicants. This is one of several ways the kids do service during their year of preparation for this sacrament.

We do need your help in order to make this a success. We ask that each R.E. family brings two dozen treats to donate to the cause, and four dozen if your child is in the 2nd grade class this year.

We ask that you please click [here](#) and sign up for the treats that you would like to bring on Sunday February 14th. It will help us to know what we will have arriving.

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4EADA82BA4F49-making>

Thank you for your participation and support of this year's 1st Communion Class!

Thanks,

The 1st Communion class

(Savannah, Abraham, Aidan, and Gavin and teacher Miss Megan)

In this issue:

Bake Sale Sign-ups	1
--------------------	---

Ash Wednesday	2
---------------	---



QAC Religious Education

We're on the Web!
Up to date calendar at
<https://sites.google.com/a/qac-ohio.org/youth/religious-education-calendar>

Queen of Apostles
Office of Religious Education
and Youth Ministry

4400 Shakertown Road
Dayton, Ohio 45430
Office Telephone: 937-429-0510 ext 2503
E-mail: qacohio@sbcglobal.net

Jr. High and High School Youth Ministry Events

February 7th—Youth Mass!! Be there at 8:30 for choir rehearsal. Donuts provided!

February 7th- Marianist L.I.F.E. -Megan—Truth and Love

February 14th— No Marianist L.I.F.E

February 20th —Jr. High Bowling!
Time to be determined soon. RSVP to Maggie or Amie

February 21st—Marianist L.I.F.E. —The Mandarin

February 28th—Marianist L.I.F.E.—planning a MCL event



Religion is not taught it is communicated. Religion is instilled more deeply in the spirits and hearts of the students through the atmosphere that permeates the school rather than through teaching.

~ Blessed William Joseph Chaminade, Marianist Founder

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday takes place 46 days before Easter Sunday. Ash Wednesday comes from the ancient Jewish tradition of penance and fasting. The practice includes the wearing of ashes on the head. The ashes symbolize the dust from which God made us. As the priest applies the ashes to a person's forehead, he speaks the words: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

Alternatively, the priest may speak the words, "Repent and believe in the Gospel."

Priests administer ashes during Mass and all are invited to accept the ashes as a visible symbol of penance. Even non-Christians and the excommunicated are welcome to receive the ashes. The ashes are made from blessed palm branches, taken from the previous year's palm Sunday Mass.

It is important to remember that Ash Wednesday is a day of penitential prayer and fasting. Some faithful take the rest of the day off work and remain home. It is generally inappropriate to dine out, to shop, or to go about in public after receiving the ashes. Feasting is highly inappropriate. Small children, the elderly and sick are exempt from this observance.

It is not required that a person wear the ashes for the rest of the day, and they may be washed off after Mass. However, many people keep the ashes as a reminder until the evening.

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Season of Lent. It is a season of penance, reflection, and fasting which prepares us for Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday, through which we attain redemption.

Learn more at <http://www.catholic.org/clife/lent/ashwed.php>



Ash Wednesday

Create in me a clean heart,
O God,
and put a new and right
spirit within me.

Psalm 51:10