



RE-View

The Newsletter for Religious Education and Faith Formation at
 Christ the King Church, Leechburg, PA 15656
 St. Gertrude Church, Vandergrift, PA 15690

Volume 1 Issue 4

December 2011

December Calendar

- Dec. 5 PREP Class
6:30 pm. @ CMA
- Dec. 5 *First Confession
for all 2nd
graders*
6:30 pm
@ St. Gertrude Ch.
- Dec. 6 Basic Adult Study
7:00 pm
@ C+K Rectory
- Dec. 12 PREP Class
6:30 pm. @ CMA
- Dec. 12 Advent Prayer Service
7:15 pm - pick-up @
St. Gertrude Ch. Hall
- Dec. 13 Basic Adult Study
7:00 pm
@ C+K Rectory
- Dec. 19 Santa's Workshop
6:30 pm. to 8:00 pm @
St. Gertrude Ch. Hall
Regist. & fee required
- Dec. 26 NO PREP Class
Christmas Break
- Jan. 2 NO PREP Class
New Year's Break
- Jan. 9 PREP Class Resumes
6:30 pm @ CMA



REMINDER

Basic Adult Faith Study is taking place every Tuesday night at Christ the King Rectory in Leechburg. All are welcome to join us @ 7:00 pm. Call the parish office for additional info.

Something to Consider: How Faith Grows

Jesus grew up in the town of Nazareth in Galilee. He would have walked around the hilly country surrounding the town and observed the growing of grapes and raising of animals around him. He learned the trade of carpentry from Joseph, and was taught prayers by his mother, Mary. As a boy, Jesus learned about his Jewish ancestors, his faith, and ways to live out God's covenant.

Each year Mary and Joseph went to Jerusalem to celebrate the Feast of Passover. Luke's account of the finding of Jesus in the temple is one of the few glimpses we have into Jesus' childhood. We

can see in this story that Jesus knew his faith and was eager to share it with others. As an adult, Jesus continued to share his faith.

Jesus often taught about the importance of having faith. Jesus reproaches those who have little faith (Matthew 6:30), and praises those who demonstrate their faith (Matthew 8:10). Faith, he says, saves us (Matthew 9:22) and can even move mountains (Matthew 17:20). Jesus' faith has its roots in his childhood, within his family, and his Jewish Community. Faith Grows through prayer, the sacraments, good decisions, and the works of justice and charity we

perform. Like Jesus, as our faith grows, we are eager to share it with others.

We know (and the teaching of the popes and bishops confirms) that, in the end, it is the parents who actually pass on the faith to their children. What we do in the parish program reinforces the work of the parents. But if parents are not equipped to do this, and many are not, then it falls to the parish to coach the parents in order that they can take a stronger role in forming their children in faith. If parents are not engaged with us, we cannot succeed in what we hope to do in our programs.

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

December 12 is the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. In 1531 the Blessed Mother appeared to St. Juan Diego in Mexico. She asked him to tell the bishop to build a chapel for her, and had him carry roses to the bishop as a sign. When Juan Diego emptied them from

his cape before the bishop, it retained the image of the Blessed Mother.

We will close our PREP on Dec. 12 with the Mexican tradition of the POSADA. In a Posada, people take the roles of Mary and Joseph vs the

Innkeepers and re-enact the story of the Holy Family searching for lodging. Children will walk from CMA and end the Posada in the church hall.

Children are to be picked from the church hall that night.

