



# The Flame

St. Jude Catechist and Volunteer Newsletter

April 2022

Dear Catechists and Volunteers,

This month, we complete the liturgical season of Lent and begin the new life that comes with the Resurrection of Christ on Easter! The events of the Passion and Resurrection of Christ sparked the bringing of the Kingdom of God on earth through the work of the Church. Let us take the hope found in Easter and let it transform us so the love of Christ can transform the world!

As we close this year and prepare for the next, we ask your help with a few things:

- Please prayerfully consider returning to teach or volunteer next year! [Click Here for a Volunteer Form.](#)
- **Return your catechist manual.** If you plan on teaching the same grade next year and would like to keep your book over the summer, please let us know as this will stop us from ordering unnecessary (and expensive) catechist books.
- The Diocese of Joliet asks all adult catechists to complete 6 hours of On-Going Formation to support your own faith lives. If something helped you grow in your relationship with God, it counts as on-going formation. Please record and submit your on-going Formation reflection by May 21<sup>st</sup>! You can submit them online here: [On-Going Formation Reflection](#). We will send our formation report to the Diocese at the end of May.

In this edition of *The Flame*, you will find:

- April session dates
- Link to the Dropbox - visit this page for sample lesson plans, activity ideas, tips for prayers and your Catechist handbook
- Suggestions for teaching Chapter 19
- Upcoming parish events to include in your *Today at a Glance* newsletter

***Remember to submit your Materials Requests  
3-5 days before your session.***

**[Click Here to Submit Your Materials Request](#)**

**[Click Here to Submit Your Today at a Glance newsletter](#)**

**It is very important that you arrive early to session. We cannot let children in the building if there is not an adult in the classroom.**

**PLEASE ARRIVE AT LEAST 20 MINUTES EARLY.**

**Students begin entering the building 15 minutes before session starts.**

You are always in our prayers. It has been an absolute blessing serving with and for all of you and seeing God's work shining through what you do for His families! Please reach out anytime if we can help in any way. Thank you for all you do!

Peace,

*The Elementary Faith Formation Team*

## APRIL SESSION DATES

**Sunday A 10:15 - 11:45 am**

April 3<sup>rd</sup> - Chapter 19

**Tuesday A 5:30 - 7:00 pm**

April 5<sup>th</sup> - Chapter 19

**Wednesday A 5:30 - 7:00 pm**

April 6<sup>th</sup> - Chapter 19

**Sunday B 10:15 - 11:45 am**

April 24<sup>th</sup> - Chapter 19

**Tuesday B 6:00 - 7:30 pm**

April 26<sup>th</sup> - Chapter 19

**Wednesday B 6:00 - 7:30 pm**

April 27<sup>th</sup> - Chapter 19

**If you are in need of a sub, please let us know right away!**

### **LINK TO THE DROPBOX**

The Dropbox is a shared platform of resources for catechists and volunteers.

#### **What's in the Dropbox:**

- Catechist lesson plans
- Activity ideas
- Classroom media guide
- In the media guide, you will find links to great online resources from YouTube channels to classroom blogs



<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/fo567fgfvjfv1s2/AABWKjoJLbpaDvbAkY8sl3ara?dl=0>

## Attendance

- In your attendance folder, mark **"P"** for **"Present"** or **"A"** for **"Absent"**. We do not record tardiness. Please take attendance at the beginning of class.
- Please **do not** add any students to your class list. If someone is in your class who is not on your roster, tell the hall monitor or a Faith Formation staff member.
- **If a child arrives late, please adjust your attendance folder or contact someone in the Faith Formation Office.**

# Checking in Unit Reviews

- **At the session, you will check in the Unit 6 review.** Use a check mark if complete, leave blank if incomplete.
- Some students may be completing eAssessments. Faith Formation staff will record these in your folder.
- We are only recording completion, so please do not spend time "grading" responses.
- If several students skipped the same question, go over the correct response together.
- When completed, leave the folder outside your door in the hallway. Hall monitors will come around to pick them up.
- Since this is our last session please be sure to check past missing and incomplete unit reviews.

## UNIT 7: KINGDOM OF GOD Catechists will teach Chapter 19 at your April session.

The Kingdom of God is the fulfillment of Christ's saving work: Heaven and earth becoming one! For God's Kingdom to come on earth we need to work together as brothers and sisters in Christ to follow in his footsteps, especially by helping our neighbor and growing in love and virtue. We are given a glimpse into the Kingdom of God every time we go to Mass and receive the Eucharist. At the Mass, we are united as one with the entire Body of Christ in community and prayer, it is a taste of Heaven on Earth! In the Concluding Rite we are sent out continue the work of Christ by spreading the good news of the Kingdom of God to all in our words and deeds. The Eucharist and Evangelization make us truly Alive in Christ!



### TIPS & IDEAS FOR THIS MONTH

- **Incorporate the Holy Spirit into your lessons** - Invite the children to **take a few moments to pray to the Holy Spirit** and ask him to work through all we do. Fifty days after Easter comes Pentecost - the birthday of the Church! Briefly discuss about the role of the Holy Spirit in

the Church (guide, comforter, and life of the Church) and some of the Sacraments he works through (Baptism and Confirmation).

- **Discuss the Eucharist and the Mass** -Take this time to refresh your students' memory about the Eucharist and the Mass and how it is food for our mission on earth! Bring them to the Church to pray before the Tabernacle.

## New Resources for You

We want to support you as you grow deeper in your faith. We hope you enjoy these resources intended to help you develop and strengthen your own formation and relationship with God.

[Daily Prayer and Meditation with the Amen App](#)

[Guided Audio Prayer with Ignatian Spirituality](#)

[Sign-Up for Daily Reflections from the Augustinians](#)

[The Bible in a Year Podcast with Fr. Mike Schmitz](#)

## Upcoming Events at Our Parish



### Triduum Schedule - April 14<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup>

**April 14<sup>th</sup> Holy Thursday 7:00pm**  
*(Adoration following Mass till 10pm)*

**April 15<sup>th</sup> Good Friday 7:00pm**  
**(Day of Fast and Abstinence)**

**April 16<sup>th</sup> Holy Saturday 8:00pm Easter Vigil**

**April 17<sup>th</sup> Easter Sunday**  
**7:00am**  
**9:00 am**  
**11:00am**

**Please see the Faith Formation Newsletter for more events and announcements!**

Do you follow us on Social Media?

Like and follow us at

**St. Jude Parish Faith Formation**

on Facebook and Instagram. Encourage families to follow us as well! We share lots of

resources and information this way!



Formed is a streaming service for Catholic Media. They offer programs, videos, books, audio books and more for kids, teens and adults - there's something for everyone!  
To access your free subscription to "Catholic Netflix", visit [www.FORMED.org](http://www.FORMED.org) and create an account using our special code '8c62ef'.

#### **Catechist Mentor**

This experienced catechist is available to you for advice, ideas and support. Please contact her at any time. She is ready and willing to help!  
**Kelly Phelps:** [runob17@aol.com](mailto:runob17@aol.com)

#### **Special Needs Catechist**

Please contact DeAnne if you have questions about including and engaging the children in your class who have special needs. If we know a child has a need or accommodation, it will be indicated on your class list.  
**DeAnne Suarez:** [dsuarez79@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dsuarez79@sbcglobal.net)

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#### **Faith Formation Staff**

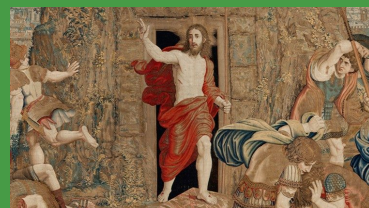
**Nicholas Resuta**, Director of Lifelong Faith Formation  
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#### ***Why is our newsletter called The Flame?***

In Icons of St. Jude, he is often depicted with a tongue of flame above his head. This flame represents his receipt of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost as one of the twelve apostles present in the Upper Room.

We also have the flame of the Holy Spirit above our heads as we help to form the faith of the families of St. Jude!



**The Holy Spirit guides us and speaks through us!**

