



Ignite the F.I.R.E.



Families Involved in Religious Education

November 21, 2018 - Vol. 1, No. 5 - HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

FATHER CRAIG'S HOMILY MESSAGE

For the past 5 newsletters, we have gone over one by one 5 simple things that, if done by our parishes, would transform our Church. #1 DAILY PRAYER, #2 MASS, #3 GET INVOLVED, and #4 CONFESSION. These 4 things alone would do great things for our lives and our communities, but the way we continue to strive for holiness is #5, LEARN MORE.

It is often heard from those who are in bible studies, going through RCIA classes to learn more about the Catholic church, or even those going through vocational studies, that they “didn’t know how much they didn’t know” until they started studying the truth about the Church and its teachings. There are many things that we might think we know about the Church, but the depth of the ocean of her teachings go way beyond what we learn as kids and what we hear in homilies.

Just as important as the learning part, is the source of the teaching. The Church teaches the truth of who God is based on Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition, which means that studying the Church can be done with a Bible and a Catechism of the Catholic Church. Now, it should not be implied that one should just sit down and read these 2 sources, as the amount of information can be overwhelming. Take advantage of online Catholic sites, local classes, Diocesan events and even more! Learning more about your Catholic faith in today’s world has become even more accessible to everyone, so we really shouldn’t have any excuse to not learn more to pass on our faith to the generations to come.

UPCOMING FEAST DAYS

Feast Days are days that we remember and celebrate the lives of those who have made a great difference in the life of the Church. *More Saint information can also be found on www.catholic.org.*

- 11/22 - Memorial of St. Cecelia
- 11/10 - St. Andrew Dung-Lac & Companions
- 11/25 - Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe
- 11/30 - St. Andrew, Apostle

-OVER-

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

A Holy Day of Obligation, the Feast Day lands on Saturday, December 8th, so please note that you will have Holy Mass twice in one week. The Feast of the Immaculate Conception will be celebrated on Friday evening and Saturday morning. Our Sunday obligation is on Saturday evening or Sunday. As Father Zack reminded us last weekend, “You cannot attend one Mass on Saturday and have it count for both, so please plan ahead accordingly.”

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A FEAST, MEMORIAL AND SOLEMNITY?

A solemnity is the highest rank of celebration. Easter, Christmas, All Saints Day, the Ascension, Corpus Christi, and other celebrations of events in our Lord’s life on earth and certain saints are solemnities. [There are 24 of them, but only 6 are Holy Days of Obligation.] Solemnities are like Sundays, though most of them are not days of obligation.

Feasts are the next rank down. They consist of the celebration of certain saints like the feast of the Archangels or most of the Apostles, [and important events in Christian history are likewise identified as feasts.]

Memorials are the lowest rank and are simply the celebrations of most of the saints. Obligatory memorials must be observed. Optional memorials may be observed but such observation is not required. {For example, the memorial of St. John Bosco (January 31) is obligatory while the memorial of St. Blase (February 3) is optional. Only the memorials of those saints who are of “universal significance” are observed by the whole Church and marked in the general liturgical calendar.}

As every country honors her founding fathers, her national heroes, independence day, and other national events, so does the Church celebrate the great sacred mysteries — the life of Jesus, the Blessed Mother, the saints and the martyrs who died for the faith. The Church classifies each celebration according to its importance and ranks them on the annual liturgical calendar as a solemnity, a feast or a memorial.

Sources: 1)<https://www.catholic.com/qa/can-you-explain-how-solemnities-feasts-and-memorials-differ>

2)<https://www.osv.com/Article/TabId/493/ArtMID/13569/ArticleID/10087/Understanding-the-Church-Calendar.aspx>

3)<https://saintlukeslidell.org/news/differences-between-a-feast-and-a-solemnity>

MISSION STATEMENT F.I.R.E. is a desire to involve more families in the investment of teaching our children to live and love the Catholic faith, through education, family events and opportunities to build up our relationship with Christ and His Church.

“Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire!” ~ St. Catherine of Siena

