



Holy Spirit

Catholic Parish and School

January 14, 2018

Worship Centers: Holy Spirit Catholic Church, 201 44th St. South Holy Family Chapel, 2800 Central Ave.
Parish Offices: 201 44th St. South Great Falls, MT 59405 Phone: (406)452-6491
Parish Office hours: Monday – Thursday 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Friday 8:30 a.m. – Noon
Fax: 452-6495 Email: hsparish@holyspiritgf.org Website: www.holyspiritgf.org

School: 2820 Central Avenue Phone: 761-5775
Email: jwichman@holyspiritgf.org web: www.holyspiritgfschool.org

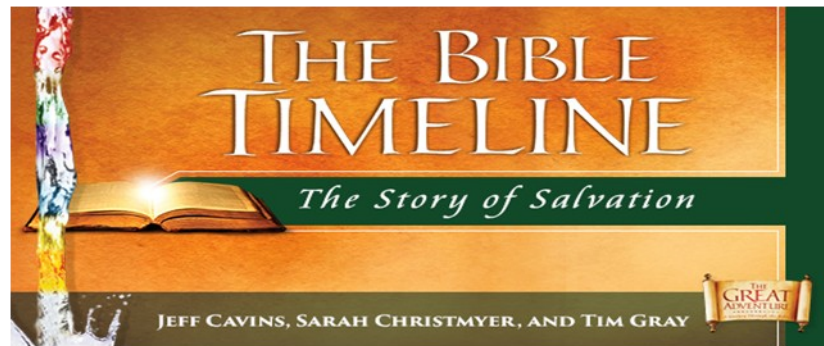
Check out FORMED.org Our parish code is PGMYYZ

WE, the people of Holy Spirit Catholic Parish of Great Falls, Montana, created by God, centered in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, are sharing our journey of faith,

WE are committed to upholding our faith, strengthening our families, and being a joyful people of prayer.

WE strive to be the Lord's presence on earth by welcoming and ministering to all people with compassion and hope. Rev. March 1999

"The tragedy of hunger which plagues hundreds of millions, the diseases which afflict developing countries, the loneliness of the elderly, the hardships faced by the unemployed, the struggles of immigrants... These evils which are present - albeit to a different degree - even in areas of immense wealth. We cannot delude ourselves: by our mutual love and, in particular, by our concern for those in need, we will be recognized as true followers of Christ." ~ St. John Paul II



You can understand the Bible!

If you want a better understanding of our faith, and a deeper relationship with God, then you should join us for ***The Bible Timeline Study***, beginning on Jan. 21 2018. ***The Bible Timeline*** is a Catholic Bible study that can help **anyone** to make sense of the Bible and experience the life-changing power of God's Word.

Please join Father Doug and Deacon Pete on this remarkable journey through time and God's word. Sign-up sheets are in the back of the church.



The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, January 14, 2018

Holy Spirit Parish Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday – 4:30 p.m.

Sunday – 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

Daily Mass Schedule

Holy Spirit Day Chapel:

Tuesdays 5:15 p.m., Wednesdays & Thursdays 8:30 a.m.

Park Place (3200 15th Ave. S) **2nd** Wednesday each month 2:30

Highgate (3000 11th Ave S) **3rd** Wednesday each month 1:30

Holy Family Chapel (2800 Central Avenue) Fridays 8:30 a.m.

Reconciliation: Saturdays - 2-4 pm, Wednesdays 5:30-6:30 pm
or by appointment with a priest.



Holy Spirit Chapel is open for prayer before the

Blessed Sacrament: Monday - Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 4 pm
Friday 8:30 - 12.

Mass Intentions:

Tues., 1/16- 5:15 p.m. - +Larry Schanz r/b Howards

Wed., 1/17- 8:30 a.m. - Jean Mimnaugh (sp int) r/b K Mimnaugh

Thu., 1/18- 8:30 a.m - Brock Kuntz (sp int) r/b V Duff

Fri., 1/19- 8:30 a.m., HF - Gene & Peggy Walsh (sp int) r/b K Walters

Sat., 1/20- 4:30 p.m.- +Elizabeth Washburn r/b Parsons

Sun., 1/21 - 8:30 a.m- Parishioners
- 11:00 a.m.- +Olivia Marie Stimac r/b O & M Stimac

Readings for next week: Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Gospel: Mark 1:14-20

Coffee & Rolls Schedule

Jan 14: Formation Program

Jan 21: Knights of Columbus #9395

Bus Schedule:

Jan 20: Andre and Michelle Jezewski



Jan 21: Logan and Alec Good

What's Happening This Week...

Sunday: Parish nurses - 9:45 am conf. Rm.

Elem. Formation - 9:45 am Sts. P&P

Youth Ministry - 6:30 pm Sts. P&P

Tuesday: Christian Service Comm. - 6:30 pm Sts. P&P

Worship Comm. - 7 pm conf. Rm.

Formation Comm. - 7 pm Sts. P&P

Wednesday: Elem. Formation - 6:30 pm Sts P&P

Thursday: RCIA - 7 pm Sts. P&P

Sunday: Elem. Formation - 9:45 am Sts. P&P

Bible Timeline Study - 1 pm conf. Rm.

Youth Group - 6:30 pm Sts. P&P



Please join us to pray the Rosary at 4:45 p.m. on Tuesday at Holy Spirit, 8 a.m. Thursday and Sunday at Holy Spirit, 8 a.m. Fridays at Holy Family and 4:00 p.m. on Saturday at Holy Spirit. The Knights of Columbus Council #9395 will lead the Rosary before the 11:00 Mass on the 5th Sunday of the month.

Wit and Wisdom

“Acceptance doesn’t mean resignation, it means understanding that something is what it is and that there’s got to be a way through it.” ~ Michael J Fox

PARISH STAFF

Fr. Douglas Krings

Pastor

Dcn. Bill Medved

Deacon

Dcn. Pete Woelkers

Deacon, Adult Formation

Mark Meyer

Parish Administrator

Mary Dupuis

Worship, RCIA (Becoming Catholic)

Aubrey Rearden

DRE/Youth Minister

Cindy Eultgen

Christian Service/Elementary Formation


Mary Wingerter

Administrative Assistant

Chuck Osterman

Maintenance

Liturgical Ministers for January 20, 21

	4:30 PM	8:30 AM	11:00 AM
	★ Sub requested ~ see Web Terminal		
Bread Baker	M. Frazier-Harris R. McNamee		
Holy Wash		J. Knutson	
Sacristan	B. Thelen	A. Heppner	D. McFadden
Greeter	D. Medvec NOT FILLED	P. Ford Team Nunez ★	J. Baje M. Balyeat ★ J. & H. Houghton
Usher	F. Handwerk D. Hogan	P. Bahnmler J. Collins	C. Rostad N. St. Claire Mike Stimac
Cross	C. Hallahan	B. Lorenz	Mason Mignery ★
Altar Servers	L. Fitzpatrick C. Polacek	G. Doughty Q. Doughty	M. Kambic B. Mignery ★
CLW		NOT FILLED	K. Blair
Reader	M. Leach K. Bernhardt	F. Fitterer B. Doughty	T. Lorang L. Glatzmaier
Gifts	Shepherd Family	Lyerly Family	Boland Family
Extra-ordinary Ministers of the Eucharist	J. Fitzpatrick T. Gilligan C. Grau T. Grau B. Hogan A. Klundt Rita Kuka Rich Kuka R. McDunn B. Medved M. Miner R. Olmstead M. Ouellette F. Polacek A. Trunkle	S. Bahnmler J. Bomgardner T. Drake L. Fitterer T. Jones ★ S. Kohut K. Lakner C. Nunez L. O'Neill S. O'Rourke K. Prinzing C. Schneider ★ D. Schwanke J. Schwanke P. Woelkers	T. Balyeat S. Donisthorpe V. Donisthorpe N. Donisthorpe S. Fehres W. Fehres Hannah Fehres L. Francis M. Francis C. Good K. Krattiger M. Matelich Drew Miller G. Miller P. Woelkers

Care for Creation by Recycling

Bins are S. of Sts. Peter & Paul Center along the N. edge of the parking lot. Newspapers, Cardboard, and Aluminum.



Schedule:

Weekend	Newspaper	Cardboard
2nd (Jan 12-18)	K. Weinheimer	K. Sanders
3rd (Jan. 19-25)	G. Kushnak	R. Shipley

The weekend starts on Friday (shifts are Friday to Thursday).

School Newspapers: Greg Bonilla

**Call Parish Office for information on RCIA,
Adult Formation or Marriage Preparation**


RCIA (Becoming Catholic) — a new team is forming! *Weekly* Thursday sessions, for unbaptized and those baptized in another faith tradition, every **Thursday, 7:00PM, at the Sts. Peter and Paul Center**. Enter from the parking lot, thru the door marked RCIA; the room is on the left. For initial contact Mary Dupuis at the parish offices 452-6491, ext 206.

RCIA Adapted for Children: for children age 7 or older who are not baptized, or baptized in another faith tradition: contact Mary Dupuis at the parish offices 452-6491.

Young Adult Ministry

Aubrey Rearden 452-6491 ext. 207 aubrey@holyspiritgf.org
Cell Phone: 868-6713 (call or text)

Young Adult Bible Study

 Interested in meeting other young adult Catholics? Join Stacy Peterson Wednesday mornings @ Schulte's Coffeehouse for bible study & fellowship **6:45-7:30 am** **Note time change**.

Youth Ministry

Aubrey Rearden 452-6491 ext. 207 aubrey@holyspiritgf.org
Cell Phone: 868-6713

Youth Group Sunday Nights 6:30-8:15pm



Youth Group this Sunday 6:30-8:15pm



Sts. Peter & Paul Center.

Life Teen (High School) is continuing a new series called "Life Skills", you don't want to miss it. The series will focus on "Adulthood", through discussion we will look at the fundamentals of becoming mature human beings. This Sunday's session is "Want vs. Need: Moderation with money & debt", hope to see you there!




Steubenville West: July 13-15, 2018 Tucson, AZ

Any high school teens interested in attending this life changing leadership conference please let Aubrey know ASAP. More information will be available at youth group. The approximate cost of the trip is \$400.



Bibles & Brew High School Bible Study

 **Every** Wednesday morning from 6:45-7:30am @ Schulte's Coffeehouse.

Sacramental Preparation

Paige Nicholson 870-0706
pdnicholson1@charter.net

Please contact Paige Nicholson (our new Sacramental Prep Coordinator) to visit about preparation for Completion of Initiation (1st Sacraments). If you have not already turned in your registration form for Sacramental Prep. please do ASAP; those forms are available in the book rack in the entrance of the church.



Elementary Faith Formation

Pre-K thru 5th gr.

Sun. 9:30—10:45 am or Wed. 6:30—7:30 pm

@ Sts. Peter & Paul Center

Cindy Eultgen 452-6491 ext. 208 cindy@holyspiritgf.org



Classes this week: Sun 1/14 and Wed 1/17

Next week: Sun 1/21 & Wed 1/24

We will be hosting **Coffee and Rolls** Sunday, January 14.
Contact Cindy to help with either 8:30 am or 11 am Mass.

Holy Spirit School

Jim Wichman - Principal Melissa Hallahan, Vice-Principal
Judy Flint & Robin Verzuh, Administrative Assistants
Colette Longin, Development Director, clongin@holyspiritgf.org
761-5775 www.holyspiritgf.org

Catholic Schools Week is coming up January 28-February 3!

During this week, HSCS students will be doing a community service project, putting together "Blessings Bags" for the Rescue Mission. These bags are for incoming guests, and include personal, toiletry sized bath and body products, like razors, shampoo, body wash, hand sanitizer, combs, wet wipes, chapsticks, toothbrushes/paste and Band-aids, just to name a few things! If you have collected any travel sized items, or would like to donate to our service project, please bring items back to the church the next 2 Sundays for collection, or drop them at the school office! Thank you for your help!

OPEN HOUSES happen that week, as well! If you have a child that is or will be pre-school age in the fall, we invite you to come to our Pre-K Open House on Tuesday, January 30th, from 8 am -11 am. You can see teachers in action, and visit with a parent helper about the program! We offer 2, 3 and 5 day classes for 3 and 4 year olds. Bring your little one and check us out! That evening, we will have our school-wide open house from 5:30-7:00 pm and invite students of all ages and their families who might be interested in the school to come for a visit! We look forward to meeting you! Please call the school at 761-5775 for more information.

We invite you to come be part of our tradition of excellence...give your child the gift of a top-notch education, based in faith, service and community... you will be glad you did!

Christian Service

Cindy Eultgen 452-6491 ext. 208 cindy@holyspiritgf.org

All Are Welcome! Free will offering

Fellowship Dinner Saturday, January 27 after the

4:30 pm Mass



Loosing a loved one brings many challenges.

Each one of us find the experience unique.

However, gathering with others who have had similar experiences can help. **All are invited to a luncheon, date to be determined**, no matter how long it has been. **Planning will be at the Christian Service meeting on Tuesday, Jan.**

16 at 6:30 pm at Sts. Peter & Paul, enter off of 44th St. (from the front) or the alley behind (shorter walk), all are welcome!

Vacation Bible School

Cindy Eultgen 452-6491 ext. 208 cindy@holyspiritgf.org

Can you believe it? Yes, we are planning for VBS! If you can help us with these supplies, we would be grateful: 6 strings—clear Christmas lights and 4 strings clear rope Christmas lights. Also needed: 10 large cardboard boxes (like TV, Microwave, Printer, etc), 30 plastic gallon-size jugs with handles, like milk or distilled water, (lids not needed), crumpled brown packing paper, and tall small mouth glass bottles (call Cindy). Thank YOU!

Stewardship

Sign-ups for Family Promise Monsignor House are this weekend--January 13 & 14. We would love to have you come and work with us. There are several opportunities available: Spending the nights, bringing a prepared supper, bringing in cots, doing laundry, or donating food for the week. We love working with our Holy Spirit community in our own House at 2810 Central. Please consider this as an invitation. The one task that people hesitate to do is the spending of a night. Please consider this at least once. It is so easy and you are not going to be left alone!



For questions or ways to help with Family Promise or to serve in the Monsignor House please feel free to stop by the Monsignor House at 2810 Central on Wednesday January 17 between the hours of 10 am and noon or call Kathie Malby at 781-5033.

"Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them, 'What are you looking for?'" - John 1:38

What are you looking for? Are you wasting your time looking for the material comforts of the world? Or, is your heart longing for something deeper that can only be found by spending time with God? Take time, each day, in silence and ask the Lord what it is that He wants you to do.

Worship

Mary Dupuis 452-6491 ex. 206 mdupuis@holyspiritgf.org



Musicians Rehearsals Wednesdays at 7:00pm.

You are invited to join the music ministry ~ All voices and most instruments are welcome to help lead the music. For more info, contact Kody Diekhans at (406) 799-2626.

Liturgical Bits and Bytes ~ "Endowed by the Creator..."

Maybe, like me, you've never participated in the March for Life in Washington or demonstrated at a Planned Parenthood center. But like me, you've probably been horrified by the atrocities committed against those who are defenseless in our societies, most especially infants and children. As we begin the new year, the Church invites us to pray on January 22 for the legal protection of the unborn. We often say that the unborn child has a right to life; many say that a woman has a right to choose. The fact is, none of us would have any rights at all unless God decided to give them to us. This is one of the first affirmations made by the Declaration of Independence and by the Bible, but it's one we often forget.

I don't much like discussions about rights; they end up focusing on #1 ("my" rights) and on no one else — certainly not God, the source of our rights. The defenseless and certainly the unborn aren't given a place in those discussions; they have no voice; it would seem they have no rights. I was lucky to have great parents. They probably would have liked to claim a right or two when my sister and I got out of hand, but their life wasn't about themselves.

Let's pray on the twenty-second of this month that God might stir up in us a real concern for the defenseless and a willingness in our country to pass laws that support the cause of the unborn.

Fr. Richard Lamoureux, AA, reprinted from Living With Christ

Addendum: Perhaps our best hope for an end to abortions is to pray for the end to the *reasons* women choose to terminate their pregnancies. The Catholic Church officially supports life from womb to tomb, and all facets of society that affect that life need to be supported and held up in prayer.

Courtesy Announcements



RETROUVAILLE Weekend
February 2-4, 2018
Ursuline Centre, Great Falls MT

Marriage Saving-the Post Session Phase -. The post-weekend phase of Retrouvaille is as crucial to the healing of a troubled marriage as the initial weekend experience. During the post-weekend sessions the weekend technique is further developed and combined with additional tools to explore other areas of the marriage relationship. Retrouvaille is for any couple who would like to rediscover their marriage and improve communication. For more information about an upcoming Retrouvaille Weekend program for couples, contact registration team: at 1-800-470-2230 or visit our website:

www.retrouvailleMT.org or www.HelpOurMarriage.com



Mark your calendar as Great Falls Central will hold its next Discovery Day January 16th. Discovery Days are a great opportunity for current 8th graders to experience high school at Central for a day. Students will visit 9th grade classes in action, meet current Central students, and participate in an assembly to meet representatives from school clubs, athletic teams, and music programs. Call the school Advancement office at 216-3344 or email to hsmith@greatfallscentral.org to reserve a spot!



Strengthening Marriages for over 40 years!

Marriage Encounter will be held:
Jan. 26-28 in Billings MT, March 2-4 in Spokane WA.
Visit wwme.org or call 307-685-4539 for more information.

Big Sky Cum Christo is accepting application for Team Members and Candidates for upcoming Weekends, being held at the Heisey Center in Great Falls. Men's weekend is April 12-15 and Women's is April 19-22. Applications are online at www.bigskycumchristo.org and deadline is March 1. Call Chris Christiaens 590-4406 or Monica Woelkers 750-1668 for more information.

For those who prayed for me during my recent hospitalization and illness, I am so grateful. God bless you ~ Vivian Drake

On January 26th and 27th, CMR will be hosting the State high school Speech and Debate Tournament and there is a need for judges. Right now the greatest need is the 8 am spot on Saturday, but we are still looking to fill all slots. Judging clinics will be held on January 10 at Great Falls High in the library, and in January 17 at the CMR media center at 5:30 pm. Clinics are not required to judge. Please consider taking part in this excellent opportunity to come see some of the best and brightest students from across the state. Please email us: cmrjudgerecruiting@gmail.com ; or register online at <https://goo.gl/forms/dajHeFGwj6yS6Cjz2>

Loaves + Fishes

There is a great opportunity coming in the new year. The Diocese of Great Falls-Billings is hosting a webinar series called Loaves + Fishes. These webinars, through Our Sunday Visitor, will be offered live on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at noon. If you missed the first webinar in this series, which was on Tuesday January 9th, you can still view it if you register. The link to register for these webinars is posted on our parish website home page: shparishgf.org.

Saint Michael Radio ~ *FM 97.1
"Sharing the Splendor of Truth"

HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC PARISH

December 31, 2017 MONTHLY FINANCIAL RECAP

OPERATING FUND

	December-17	FISCAL YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL	BUDGET TO DATE	BUDGET VARIANCE OVER (UNDER)
SUNDAY OFFERING - (ENVELOPES & CASH)	\$ 135,681	\$ 490,123	\$ 480,000	\$ 10,123
SPECIAL DONATIONS-(WILLS, ESTATES, GIFTS, ETC.)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
PCCW CONTRIBUTIONS	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
* OTHER INCOME - (RELIG. ED., INTEREST, USER FEES, ETC.)	\$ -	\$ 1,677	\$ 1,100	\$ 577
DIOCESE CURRENT OPERATING FUND ASSMT.-DONATION THRU C&S	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	\$ 135,681	\$ 491,799	\$ 481,100	\$ 10,699
OPERATING EXPENSES				
HOLY SPIRIT SCHOOL SUBSIDY (29% OF SUNDAY OFFERINGS)	\$ 23,042	\$ 138,252	\$ 138,250	\$ 2
CHURCH & CENTER (MAINT. UTILITIES, INSURANCE, TAXES)	\$ 7,964	\$ 58,402	\$ 54,071	\$ 4,332
BUSINESS OFFICE (SUPPLIES, POSTAGE, EQUIP. & MAINT.)	\$ 2,219	\$ 22,542	\$ 25,650	\$ (3,108)
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (BOOKS, SUPPLIES, TRAINING, RESOURCES)	\$ 4,615	\$ 15,027	\$ 8,650	\$ 6,377
WORSHIP (ALTAR SUPPLIES, TRAINING, MUSIC)	\$ 3,039	\$ 12,092	\$ 9,525	\$ 2,567
CHRISTIAN SERVICE (TRAINING & SUPPLIES)	\$ 200	\$ 1,308	\$ 2,950	\$ (1,642)
EMPLOYEE SALARIES & BENEFITS (INS. RETIREMENT, WORKERS COMP)	\$ 30,424	\$ 179,855	\$ 197,006	\$ (17,151)
DIOCESAN CURRENT OPERATING FUND ASSESSMENT	\$ 4,733	\$ 24,721	\$ 30,800	\$ (6,079)
OTHER EXPENSES (HOSPITALITY, COUNCIL, PARISH VAN)	\$ 4,464	\$ 14,181	\$ 10,060	\$ 4,121
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES (BEFORE DEBT SERVICE)	\$ 80,700	\$ 466,379	\$ 476,962	\$ (10,582)
NET INCREASE OR (DECREASE) IN OPERATING FUNDS	\$ 54,982	\$ 25,420	\$ 4,139	\$ 21,282
BUILDING INCOME/ EXPENSES				
BUILDING PLEDGES & GIFTS	\$ 17,275	\$ 46,995		
* INTEREST INCOME	\$ -	\$ 14,961		
INTEREST EXPENSE	\$ (2,769)	\$ (16,737)		
PRINCIPAL PAYMENT	\$ (8,774)	\$ (52,523)		
NET INCREASE OR (DECREASE) IN BUILDING FUNDS	\$ 5,732	\$ (7,304)		
NET INCREASE OR (DECREASE) IN TOTAL FUNDS (BUILDING AND OPERATING)	\$ 60,714	\$ 18,116		

THE VISION	
PLEDGES	\$ 1,281,145
COLLECTED	\$ (1,075,209)
BALANCE	\$ 205,936

BUILDING CASH RESERVE and LOAN STATUS

BEGINNING LOAN BALANCES: 7/01/2017			\$	1,930,707
BUILDING RESERVE LOAN (HOLY SPIRIT SCHOOL ENDOWMENT)			\$	400,000
SUBTOTAL			\$	2,330,707

Q What is the first stage in the process of initiation, and what happens during that time?

A The Period of Evangelization and Precatechumenate is an open-ended period of time that encourages inquirers to “come and see.” The Gospel is proclaimed, life stories are shared, and questions are asked and discussed. It is an opportunity for participants to come to first faith and an initial conversion to Jesus Christ.

Essentially informal in its approach, this period is a time for inquirers to share their stories, to ponder them in the light of the great stories of Scripture, and to awaken to the ways that God has been and continues to be a part of their lives—to recognize that God has been inviting them into a relationship. In these discussions, the catechist helps the inquirers know that God first chose each one of them and knew each one before they were born.

The catechist focuses on the questions, issues, and concerns of the inquirers, making connections to Scripture and Tradition, to the ways God has been part of human history from creation until the present. Inquirers come to know the key people and events of salvation history (Old Testament and New Testament), as well as the saints and Mary, and of course, the life of Jesus, the Christ. As conversations bring these matters more and more into the consciousness of inquirers, the Holy Spirit opens their minds and hearts to God’s activity.

In this period inquirers become acquainted with Catholic signs, symbols, and gestures. They take a tour of the church and learn the names of places and sacred items. They observe, in a general way, how Catholics celebrate the liturgical year and its seasons, including the colors of the



seasons. They learn how Catholics care for one another and reach out beyond the parish to care for all the children of God in need: the widow, the orphan, and people who live on the margins of society.

It is also important at this time for the inquirers to become personally acquainted with some of the people in the faith community with whom they will be journeying. Assembly members willing to be conversation partners can help inquirers see how Catholic Christians live the Gospel in daily life, how they pray and how they serve, how they make choices in life based on the Gospel and the teachings of the Church—how they think about and practice their faith. Engaging in such conversations with members of the assembly and praying with the community each week, inquirers learn how a community of disciples lives and how it celebrates events in the lives of parishioners in good times and in bad times.

Assembly members also serve this evangelization phase of Christian initiation by praying for all who seek God and a community of faith. They might also pray for the grace to recognize seekers and share their faith in helpful ways.

The key goal of this period is to help each inquirer begin to develop a personal relationship with Jesus that will deepen throughout their life. The time this takes will be different for each individual. Inquirers will be ready for the next step when they have grown into a relationship with Jesus Christ that empowers them to want to declare publicly that they are ready to accept the Gospel and learn to follow him.

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RCIA

Becoming Catholic

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If you are interested in developing a closer relationship with Jesus, are interested in joining the Catholic Church, or know someone who is interested, invite them to the next RCIA session, on Thursdays at 7:00pm, meeting at Sts. Peter and Paul Center (enter from the parking lot). Better yet, attend with them or invite them to Mass. We can arrange a one-on-one meeting, to answer questions and explain the process of becoming Catholic. Contact Mary Dupuis at the parish offices ~ 406-452-6491, mdupuis@holyspiritgr.org

Q How do members of the assembly help attract and welcome people to our faith?

A A simple invitation to come to Mass may be just what a spouse, neighbor, good friend, or acquaintance has been waiting for. People are attracted to faith by the way others lead their lives—in the neighborhood, school, workplace, or ball field. What they observe in us kindles a desire for something more. Some people have no experience of any formal faith tradition and don’t know how to access it, so a willingness to share our faith and extend an invitation opens the way for them. We must become the hands and feet and welcoming voice of Jesus in the marketplace. The Holy Spirit is alive and working through us to lead others to Jesus. And when visitors cross the threshold of our church, we must pay attention. Everyone needs a warm welcome—especially seekers.

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