

HOLY  
COMFORTER-  
SAINT CYPRIAN  
PARISH

African American  
History Month

• 1st Sunday

Celebrating  
our Ancestors

• 2nd Sunday

Celebrating  
our Elders

• 3rd Sunday

Celebrating  
our Youth

• 4th Sunday

Celebrating  
our Men

**“I still believe  
that one day  
mankind will  
bow before the  
altars of God  
and be  
crowned trium-  
phant over war  
and bloodshed,  
and nonviolent  
redemptive  
goodwill will  
proclaim the  
rule of the  
land.” MLK  
1964**

# Faith Formation

VOLUME I, ISSUE I

FEBRUARY

## Life Long Learning

Once upon a time, in my adolescent years, I was silly enough to think that it would be “just a few more years” until I knew all that I’d need to know. Several decades later I am acutely aware of my great need (and my desire) to increase in wisdom and knowledge. Who among us, at one point or another in our working years, didn’t need to learn a particular job skill or receive further professional training. Many of us have tried to tackle at least some knowledge about the technology that comes at us so incredibly fast! And all of us, I would venture to guess, may have at least one “self-help” book on our bookshelf.

The above examples point to the reality that we are naturally life long learners. I would like to suggest then, that **in the life of faith**, in our life as a committed disciple of Jesus Christ, as a Catholic, we are no less called to be life long learners. Within society, there is a growing interest in and a concern for the spiritual. It seems that the human spirit, even amidst our busy lives, recognizes the need to ponder things that speak to the heart

and soul, to reflect on questions of substance such as what is the purpose, meaning, and end of life. Within our own heart, we have a desire to delve deeper into the Scriptures, ponder the mysteries of the Faith, and enter more fully into prayer/dialogue with the God who “calls us by name.”



Each Sunday we stand together and recite: *“Holy Comforter-St. Cyprian Roman Catholic Church empowered by the Holy Spirit, exists to evangelize and to uphold Christian values by promoting the teachings of the Church in Word, Sacrament and Witness.”* In this powerful mission statement we promise to promote the teachings of the Church. **As a New Year challenge**, I propose for each of us, young and old alike, to take time to learn

something more about the Word of God, the teachings of the Church, social justice issues, and to enter into dialogue with God through prayer.

This parish has started what is known as “whole community catechesis.” **Whole Community Catechesis is Church language for life long learning.** The parish staff and parish council are committed to ensure that at the heart of what we do and plan will aim at involving the whole community to grow more deeply in the ways of faith, to live that faith in our everyday life, and to encounter Christ in our walk. Whole Community Catechesis (WCC) strives then to plan events which brings all the generations together in faith, in prayer, in community.

Make the Year 2007 a year dedicated to learning more about the Lord. Make it a year that we, the whole community, strives to **seek after holiness through knowledge, grace and works of love.**

Lisa M. Gulino

Director, Faith Formation

# Reflecting on God's Revelation

## Question of the Week

To help us as a community to prayerfully reflect on the Word of God, we would encourage you individually, as a family, with friends or at the beginning of your meetings to read the appropriate Scriptures and then reflect upon the Word in light of these questions.

**February 4** [Is 6:1-2a, 3-8](#), [1 Cor 15:1-11 or 15:3-8](#), [Lk 5:1-11](#)

What word or phrase stands out for you? Why? Do you believe in the resurrection of the body? What significance does this belief have in your own life?

**February 11** [Jer 17:5-8](#), [1 Cor 15:12, 16-20](#), [Luke 6, 17, 20-26](#) Do you feel attracted to anything in today's readings? Do you feel resistant to anything? Why? How do you answer the question, "what must I do to be a faithful disciple of Christ?" Does being a disciple impact your life? How?

**February 18** [1 Sm 26:2-7, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23](#), [1 Cor 15:45-49](#), [Luke 6:27-38](#)

Do our words and actions speak of love and building up the Body of Christ? Do we seek unity and grant humble forgiveness toward those we differ with or those who are our "enemies". What ways do I contribute to building peace and unity among "enemies".

**February 25** *1st Sunday of Lent* [Dt. 26-4-10](#), [Rom. 10:8-13](#), [Lk 4:1-13](#)

Are you aware of temptations in your own life such as temptation to gossip, be less than honest, unforgiving, critical of others, not taking time for prayer, and not trusting in God as we ought? What ways may we try to overcome temptations?

## Up Coming Events

### On-Going Faith Formation

**Religious Education:** Sundays @  
Holy Comforter-St. Cyprian School  
9:45 a.m. until 10:45 a.m.

If children are not enrolled in Catholic Schools, they should attend Sunday religious education. Grades Pre-K through 12.

**R.C.I.A.** 1st, 3rd, & 5th Thursdays of the Month @ Rectory Basement  
6:30– 8:30 p.m.

Are you interested in coming to the Faith or wish to inquire about the Catholic Church? Please join us on the 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays of each month.

### Save the Date

#### **Family Lenten Day**

Sunday, March 4, 2007 @  
Holy Comforter-St. Cyprian School  
1:00 p.m.—3:00 p.m.

#### **Marriage Retreat**

Saturday, March 10 and Sunday, March 11  
Holy Comforter-St. Cyprian School

#### **Living in Love**

This day and a half parish based event provides the inspiration and insight that enables each couple to create the lifestyle and marriage they have always dreamed of.... More details to follow.

"Prayer should accompany the reading of Sacred Scripture so that a dialogue takes place between God and the human person."

Catholic Catechism  
#2653

"God is more anxious to bestow His blessings on us than we are to receive them. God would not urge us to ask, unless He were willing to give."  
St. Augustine

### **FAITH FORMATION**

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