



FEBRUARY 10



# CFF CLASSROOM CHRONICLES

THE LATEST EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS  
FOR OUR CARING CATECHISTS!!

Lake County Coordinators Association

PRAYER | FASTING | ALMSGIVING

## HEALING THROUGH LENT A RETREAT FOR CATECHISTS

We have all journeyed together through this pandemic, now let us gather together in prayer and reflection in anticipation of what Lent will bring. Join us on March 3rd, 2022 with our facilitator Mike Gregg.



ST. PATRICK CHURCH | O'GARA CENTER  
991 S. WAUKEGAN ROAD LAKE FOREST, IL 60045

A light dinner will be served at 6:30 pm  
Program will be from 7:00 - 8:30 pm



WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR  
RSVP BY FEBRUARY 22ND

## MEET OUR FACILITATOR



Mike Gregg is a Campus Minister at Loyola Academy, since the Fall of 2009, where he spends most of his time leading retreats, offering weekly spiritual conversations and direction with juniors and seniors in high school, and leading the community in liturgical music and prayer in our All-School Liturgies. He has his Master's Degree in Pastoral Studies from Loyola University and his undergraduate degrees are in Theology and Fine Arts from Loyola University Chicago. He has over 20 years of experience ministering to high school aged youth which began in the Diocese of Joliet. He spent a year on staff at Nazareth Farm in Centerpoint, West Virginia. He developed and grew a dynamic Confirmation Program and High School Youth Ministry community at Holy Cross Parish in Deerfield, IL. He has offered retreats for local Catholic School & Parish staffs, offered Parish Missions, and spoken at Diocesan Youth Conferences. He is married to his wife of 16 years, whom he met working together at Nazareth Farm. They have 2 children.

**Here is the direct link to register for the retreat:**  
**<https://forms.gle/wByTQGitytNnbaQP6>**

**Please consider attending this Catechist Retreat! This is time for YOU, away from all the craziness of the world; time to refresh your soul.**

### **The Archdiocese of Chicago has updated its mask requirements:**



- Masks will not be required.
- There is no change in the policies regarding symptomatic students/staff. Please keep your child home if they have COVID symptom(s) and call the school in the morning before 7:30AM.
- Students with a current positive COVID case must isolate for five days per CDC guidance.
- For more information, please go [here](#).

**6th-8th Grade Catechists:** please reach out to your class & remind the students that the deadline for the essay contest on vocations is this Sunday, Feb. 13th. All entries should be emailed to [mnelson@stjoseph-libertyville.org](mailto:mnelson@stjoseph-libertyville.org).



Just a reminder that this Sunday is a teaching Mass at the 9am & 5pm liturgies. Students are either attend the teaching Mass or attend class. If you wish, your class may watch the Mass at another time since the liturgies are recorded. You may go to: <https://stjoseph-libertyville.org/live> and select Previous Recordings.



**Here is a new Catholic Leadership Resource- FREE no charge!**

Main website : <https://reviveparishes.com/about/> Sign up for access to view and attend courses and for newsletter. Courses: <https://reviveparishes.com/courses/>

**To access the Pflaum Gospel Weekly digital edition, please do the following:**

How to Access the Digital Edition

1. Go to [gospelweeklies.com](http://gospelweeklies.com)

2. At the top of the page, click on to Access Digital Editions.

3. Click on Create New Account. Register with your email address.

Be certain to use the email address that you have provided to us when you

4. Create a Password. If you lose your password, you will be able to create a new one.

5. Click on Redeem A Subscription and enter this code: **see below**

6. Click on My Library. You will now have access to the Pflaum Gospel Weeklies for the duration of our program year.



Additional Resources: There are easy-to-use Parent Teaching Pages and other resources for families available at [gospelweeklies.com/family](http://gospelweeklies.com/family).

Pflaum Gospel Weeklies • 800-543-4383

**Redemption Code:** see below

**Password:** StJoeCFF2122!

**Redemption Codes:** CW\_1828850\_1310482 (**Visions**) CW\_1828853\_1310482 (**Venture**)  
CW\_1828854\_1310482 (**Good News**) CW\_1828851\_1310482 (**Promise**)  
CW\_1828852\_1310482 (**Seeds**)

# Catechist Resource Center

- <https://amenapp.org/signup> :The Augustine Institute is proud to introduce Amen, its latest offering. Amen is the free Catholic app that brings you daily Mass readings, beautiful prayers, faithful meditations, and nourishing Scripture to draw your mind, body, and soul to rest in God.
- <https://www.franciscanmedia.org/> : Site has Saint of the Day, Daily meditations, blog & other resources. If you join their mailing list you are often offered to purchase ebooks for 0.99 or up to \$3. Although they will email you at least 1x/day.
- **Pflaum:** fill out the registration w/ all your info & where it asks for a **customer number**, it is: **1114474**
- <http://www.usccb.org/> : **United States Conference of Catholic Bishops**
- <http://www.loyolapress.com/>: **Activity Finder, Catholic Resources & more Loyola Press:** once you get to their landing page, look to the top right for "Catholic Resources". There are oodles of goodies there all for free!
- <https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/lent/> **New for Lent!\***
- <https://www.catechist.com/> **lessons & activities, Catechist Formation & resources**
- <http://www.bc.edu/sites/c21online/>: **Boston College's Church for the 21st Century.** Some courses are free and some have a small fee that RE will cover under Formation expenses.
- <http://www.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/online.html>: **resources for your own spiritual life**
- <http://lifelongcatechesis.osv.com/> : **Has resources for all ages and under "adolescents" has a "question of the week" based on the gospel and background on all 3 readings.**
- <http://www.wordamongus.org>: **Magazine for Catholics; has mediations, articles, things for families- a lot is free, but not everything is.**
- <http://www.smp.org/resourcecenter/> **St. Mary's Press Resource Center**
- <https://www.smp.org/resourcecenter/category/Lent/15/> **New for Lent!\***
- <http://www.handsonsuburbanchicago.org/> **Looking for Service Project Ideas!?!? These are all in the NW Suburbs!**
- <https://www.thereligionteacher.com/> **The Religion Teacher: has over 700 activities, videos, worksheets & more! You may use the link here but only some things are free. I have a subscription to this & am happy to look for resources for you! (I paid for a single vs group subscription.)**



Below is some good background information on the gospel for Sunday, February 13. Please feel free to use it for your own knowledge & for class discussion.

## SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

LK 6:17, 20-26

### Context Connection

As you read this passage from the Gospel of Luke, your immediate reaction might be, “But I learned a different set of Beatitudes that had eight ‘blessed are’ sayings.” Many of the songs we sing at church and many of the lessons we learn in school are based on the Beatitudes from Matthew 5:1–12, which has eight “blessed are” aphorisms. Luke first lists four blessings, then four woes or warnings in contrast to the blessings. Each blessing is paired with a gratifying consolation, and each woe has an accompanying challenging consolation. For Luke, disciples of Jesus are totally focused on God and do not allow worldly matters to divert them from God. The first reading for this Sunday is from the prophet Jeremiah, who says, “Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, / whose trust is the Lord” (17:7). This theme is echoed in the responsorial Psalm: “Blessed are those who trust in the Lord” (17:7). This message of trusting in the Lord is what Luke emphasizes in Sunday’s Gospel. Jesus’s situation parallels Jeremiah’s. Just as people refuse to listen to Jeremiah, many also refuse to hear Jesus. The Gospel cautions us that to be a disciple of Jesus means to trust in God absolutely and to listen to, and act on, what Jesus has to say. Such a disciple might not be very popular and might suffer unpleasant hardship, but in the end, “your reward is great in heaven” (6:23). By framing the Beatitudes this way, Luke reassures the Christian community, which is experiencing persecution because of its allegiance to Jesus. Suffering such hardship is a badge of honor, not a veil of shame. Jesus Christ is the reason for enduring such hateful actions: “Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man” (6:22).

Luke and Matthew also offer this contrast:

- In Luke, after Jesus prays with his disciples, he comes down from the mountain to teach.
- In Matthew, Jesus goes up the mountain.

Why does Luke have Jesus coming down from the mountain? Scholars offer two perspectives:

- Luke is comparing Jesus to Moses, who came down from the mountain with the Ten Commandments. That image makes a nice analogy for Christians—these are the new commands from God, which should be placed at the core of Christian life.
- Luke is indicating that by coming down from the mountain, Jesus demonstrates his solidarity with all those who believe in him. According to Luke, “He [Jesus] came down with them and stood on a level place” (6:17).

## SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

LK 6:17, 20-26

### **Tradition Connection**

*This Sunday's Gospel supports the proposition that Jesus has a preference for the poor. This love for the poor does not mean that we hate the rich or that the rich are automatically in trouble. The Beatitudes express a new law, the Law of the Gospel. Jesus is the continuity between the Old Law and the New Law of love. In the Gospel, by presenting it as a choice, Luke helps us understand this Law of Christ. We can choose poverty, hunger, weeping, and complete trust in God, or we can choose riches, comfort, popularity, and misguided happiness.*

### **Wisdom Connection**

*Luke wants his community and us to understand that Jesus is very clear about the two paths we can take—one path is the road to blessedness, and the other path is the road to woefulness. The blessed are those who are poor, hungry, weeping, and followers of Jesus. The woeful are those who are rich, filled up, well thought of, and happy. The problem isn't the riches themselves, it is the attitude that rich people often have toward them. A wealthy person who values riches more than people who are poor, or who considers the accumulation of wealth more important than the path Jesus calls us to follow, is a woeful person because she or he seeks and finds comfort in wealth instead of in God.*

*Choosing Jesus does not necessarily mean that life on earth will be easy. But faithfulness never goes unrewarded in the Kingdom of God. We stay focused by trusting in God, as Jeremiah did: "Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, / whose trust is the Lord" (17:7). Christians who focus on this trust in the Lord—no matter what happens in their lives—will always remain faithful to God. No persecution is so severe, nor any life so filled with everything a human being could want, that a true follower of Jesus could turn away from God. Just as Moses gave the Israelites the Ten Commandments as true compasses to guide their spiritual and secular lives, Jesus gives us the Beatitudes to guide us through life as honorable members of God's Kingdom. These moral qualities identify God-fearing people. Those who conduct their lives in such honor-deserving ways will indeed be honored by God—the only honor that counts.*