

St. Monica's & St. Thomas the Apostle's Family Ministry

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Dear Families,

It has been such an amazing and spirit-filled year as we prepared for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist, and Confirmation. Thank you so much for all your support, love, and encouragement. This program **would not** have been successful if it weren't for your Christ-centered leadership and servant attitude. We wish you all a very fruitful spring season and a very relaxing summer break!

Blessings,

Faith Formation Staff

Family Sacramental Preparation Program

Beginning in October 2015, students and parents at both St. Monica and St. Thomas the Apostle Schools were presented the opportunity to participate in the first ever Family Sacramental Preparation Program, which included seven faith sharing meetings and eight family Masses as one community. Topics of discussion included confirming one's faith, the Greatest Commandment, the why's behind the what's in Mass, answering your Baptismal call, forgiveness and reconciliation, and the Eucharist as real presence, sacred meal, and sacrifice. These combined faith sharing meetings were the parish's initiative to build stronger Catholic family communities who were "full, active, and conscious" participants of their faith both within and outside the church.

FAMILY MINISTRY



Come One, Come All!

Our Mission

The Family Ministry Program serves families of all ages throughout the Richmond District of San Francisco. In collaboration with the Archdiocese of San Francisco, we are working to build up family communities at both St. Monica and St. Thomas the Apostle Parishes.

Family Ministry Goals

To empower families to live as disciples of Jesus Christ in our world today.

To draw families to responsible participation in the life, mission, and work of our Catholic faith community.

To foster the total personal and spiritual growth of each family member.

To build and foster a strong vibrant family community within the Richmond District.

More Important News

Middle School Retreat Program

All sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students at both St. Monica and St. Thomas the Apostle Schools, regardless of one's faith background, participated in the first ever St. Monica and St. Thomas the Apostle Middle School Retreat Program. Each retreat was led by both youth and young adult ministers from throughout the Archdiocese of San Francisco. Activities included icebreakers, skits, witness talks and catechetics, small group discussions, prayer services, and Mass.

Works of Mercy

THE SEVEN CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY

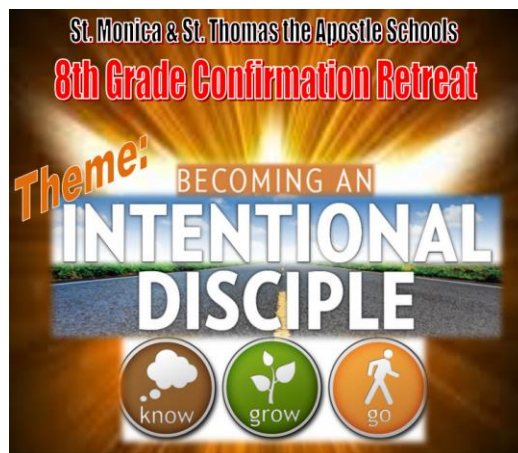
1. Feed the hungry.
2. Give drink to the thirsty.
3. Clothe the naked.
4. Shelter the homeless.
5. Visit the sick.
6. Visit the imprisoned.
7. Bury the dead.

THE SEVEN SPIRITUAL WORKS OF MERCY

1. Counsel the doubtful.
2. Instruct the ignorant.
3. Admonish sinners.
4. Comfort the afflicted.
5. Forgive offenses.
6. Bear wrongs patiently.
7. Pray for the living and the dead.

The theme of the sixth and seventh grade retreats was "Works of Mercy," in which students had the opportunity to learn about the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy and how they can implement these merciful actions in their daily lives.

The theme of the eighth grade retreat was "Becoming an Intentional Disciple," in which students learned the simple steps of becoming a true follower of Christ—know God, grow in one's faith and relationship with Christ, and go and serve God and others.



Farewell to Ryan Dilag, Director of Family Ministry

Ryan will be leaving us at the end of this academic year. We want to thank him for all of his hard work in bringing in new ideas for our Family Ministry and Sacramental Preparation Programs. His gifts and experience has enriched our programs and left us with a lasting impression that will continue. May God bless him in his future pursuits. We will miss him.



In the Community

St. Thomas the Apostle's First Holy Communion Mass

Saturday, April 30th, 4:00pm
at St. Thomas the Apostle Church

St. Monica's First Holy Communion Mass

Sunday, May 1st, 10:30am at
St. Monica Church