

ST. JOSEPH

Catholic Church

Office of Religious Education
303 S. 7th St. Pekin, IL 61554
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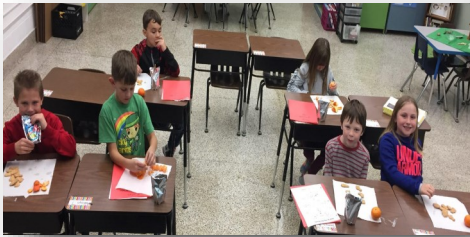
CCD Newsletter

November 21, 2018

Dear Families,

As the temperature gets colder the Holidays are just beginning to heat up! While Thanksgiving and Christmas are right around the corner, lets take a step back and check out some of the fun All Saints/All Souls Day and Halloween activities!

In 3rd grade, they celebrated All Saints and all souls day by enjoying Halo Oranges and St. Francis' animal crackers, aka soul cakes!



The 2nd grade class decided to share their Halloween costumes with the class and learned how to *Count Your Blessings* with candy corn!

Up in the 4th grade classroom, students learned how to sing "Oh When the Saints Come Marching In" with a Ukulele! Then to make things even better, they went and performed it for the 1st and Kindergarten classes during their party! To check out this great rendition of the song, head over to our website!



Kindergarten and 1st grade had a fabulous time carving out a pumpkin prayer! They also enjoyed coloring their own pumpkin prayer and treats during their celebration. You can see their smiles in the picture below!



Jumping back to even more recent events, 1st grade learned all about the foundation of the Catholic Church!

In the 4th grade classroom, students explored how Jesus is truly present in the Eucharist. They learned about Adoration and created their own paper Monstrance, and in the center the paper Eucharist opened up to reveal an image of Jesus! Have you considered taking your kids for a brief time in adoration together? Every Monday in the church Jesus is present in the Monstrance on the altar for a whole 24 hours! Even if it is for 10 minutes, I encourage you to stop by with your children, visit with Jesus!



You will also notice on the schedule that we will not have class on December 5th because of the parish mission.

This year something extra special is being done and there is going to be a "Family Talk" about the Wise Men that is geared for kids! We are incredibly blessed to be able to have Fr. Dwight Longenecker visit our parish and kick start the Advent Season. Rather than attending normal CCD Classes, CCD families should take advantage of this wonderful opportunity and attend the Parish Mission Kick-off and Reception on Sunday December 2nd. Wouldn't it be wonderful if all the parish families all came together to prepare for Christmas? Lets pack the church!

I hope that everyone travels safe and has a wonderful Thanksgiving with friends and family!

God Bless,
Anna McMahan, D.R.E

"What can you do to promote world peace? Go home and love your family!" -Saint Teresa of Calcutta

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**CLUB
3:16**

THE STAR

THE STORY OF THE FIRST CHRISTMAS

December 9th 5:30-8:30pm
K-6th Grade FREE!
St. Joseph Parish Center

Register for this event online at stjosephpekin.org or call the parish center!

Dinner and Movie will be from 6:00-8:00pm
Drop off as early as 5:30, pick up by 8:30pm
Please come in the parish center to SIGN IN /OUT.

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 21	NO CCD Happy Thanksgiving!
November 28	CCD
December 2	Parish Mission Kick-off and Family Talk
December 5	NO CCD
December 12	CCD
December 15	Club 3:16 The Star: ADVENTure
December 19	NO CCD
December 26	NO CCD



Parents are a child's primary catechist! Your children spend at most 28 hours a year at CCD versus the average 3,000 hours they spend with their parents. This corner will hopefully be a helpful tool that you and your family can use by providing resources that you can apply what children learn in class and at Mass in the home! If you have any ideas you would like to share to help other parents encourage their child's faith at home (or in the car!) please let me know!

The Catholic Sprouts Podcast is a daily podcast for Catholic kids. The short episodes are designed to plant one seed of faith each day. Topics covered include Catholic Feast Days, Morality, Catholic Theology, the saints and the sacraments.

Catholic Sprouts

daily podcast for Catholic kids



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Parish Mission Kick-off & Reception

WISE MEN

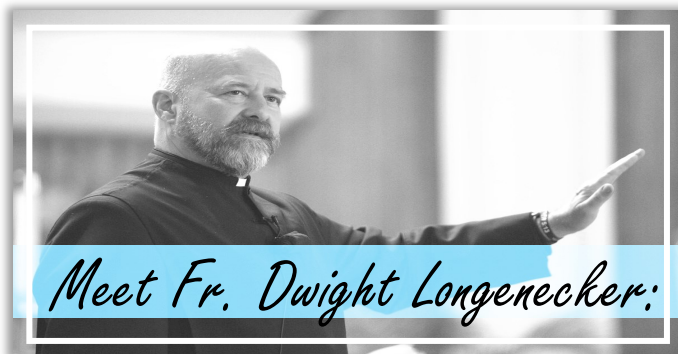
FROM THE EAST

December 2nd, 6:00PM

family
friendly

All Families are encouraged to come and help Kick-Off our Parish Mission where Fr. Longenecker will give a 30 min. "Family Talk" about the Wise Men. This talk will be geared towards children and will be a great way to come together as a parish and family during this chaotic Advent season! A reception will follow in the Parish Center. *All are invited!*

With the Christmas season quickly approaching, the Parish Mission is a great way for busy families to take the much needed time to slow down together. St. Joseph Parish is happy to announce Fr. Dwight Longenecker as speaker/leader of our Parish Advent Mission. Father is the author of many books including "Praying the Rosary for Spiritual Healing" and "The Mystery of the Magi".



Meet Fr. Dwight Longenecker:

"I was brought up in an Evangelical home in Pennsylvania. After graduating from the fundamentalist Bob Jones University with a degree in Speech and English, I went to study theology at Oxford University. Eventually I was ordained as an Anglican priest and served as a curate, a school chaplain in Cambridge and a country parson on the Isle of Wight.

Realizing that the Anglican Church and I were on divergent paths, in 1995 I and my family were received into the Catholic Church. For ten years we continued to live in England where I worked as a freelance writer and charity worker. Then in 2006 the door opened to return to the USA and be ordained as a Catholic priest. I now serve as Pastor of Our Lady of the Rosary Church in Greenville, South Carolina."

<https://dwightlongenecker.com>

Fr. Longenecker will preach at all weekend Masses
Sat 5 PM, Sun 7:30, 9 & 11 AM

Sunday 6:00 PM

Parish Mission Kick-off & Reception

Fr. Longenecker will give a 30 min. "Family Talk" about the Wise Men, geared towards children. A reception will follow in the Parish Center. All are invited!

Monday "Mary, Joseph and the Angels"

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Tuesday "Matthew and the Wise Men"

~

Wednesday "Why does it matter to me"

~

Each Mission Talk will begin at 7 PM in the church.

Thursday Parish Penance Service 7 PM
Fr. Longenecker will not be here for the Penance Service

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