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**RE SUMMER NEWSLETTER...SUNNY AND
SLOWER**

**Holy Spirit Catholic Community
June 28, 2020**



Picture a warm and sunny day, picnics, family, friends, grilling some delicious food and maybe watching fireworks at night. This is how many of us will spend the Fourth of July holiday. Although this year our celebrations may look a little different than in years past, the reason we celebrate remains the same. A day that all of us can show support for our history and diverse

backgrounds. Take some time this week to remember what Fourth of July means to your family. Read about a favorite July 4th memory shared by some of our HSCC staff.

Happy Birthday America!



My favorite 4th of July memory is when my kids were elementary age. A group of neighbors would get together for a backyard 4th of July Party. The kids would each decorate their bike with red, white, and blue decorations. When all the bikes were decorated then it was time for the Bike Parade up and down the street.

Guess what the grandkids will be doing this 4th of July?? (I already have the crepe paper and tape ready.)

-Jane



I grew up in a small town in central Illinois and every year we would gather at my grandparents' house for a family barbeque. Burgers, hot dogs, potato salad, and homemade ice cream. My grandpa would get the ice cream machine ready, the kind you have to crank! He would put in the runny concoction, rock salt around the container and then we would all take turns cranking it....for a long time! My favorite was always the strawberry ice cream! The results were always the same...a creamy, cool, yummy ice cream. We would eat the ice cream then take some sparklers to watch fireworks at a local town's football field. Small town America, it was the best!

-Kim



We go to South Carolina every year for Fourth of July. We rent a boat, spend the day on the water. My dad barbecues and we watch the fireworks on the lake.

-Claire



For some reason, on many levels, my parents allowed us as kids (grade school) to light these things called "worms."

When they were lit with a match, they sizzled and grew in size! Gosh, they smelled horrid! But we loved doing it and this activity was done only on the 4th of July.

-Lynn



A few ingredients you may have in your pantry can turn into a yummy and patriotic treat!

What you need to make both of the treats: Large marshmallows, red, white or blue candy melts, sprinkles, toothpicks or straws, graham crackers and chocolate bars.

Here's how to make the marshmallow pop: Put the candy melts in the microwave on low until melted enough to stir. Take a large marshmallow, put a toothpick or straw into the

middle. This is a perfect way to use up some leftover holiday paper straws, just cut them in half and insert them into the marshmallow. Dip the marshmallow into the melted candy and then immediately roll in red or blue sprinkles.

Here's how to make the patriotic smore: Break a full size graham cracker in half. Put a piece of chocolate bar onto the top of the graham cracker. Roast your marshmallow and put on top of chocolate bar. Place the other half of graham cracker on top of the marshmallow and push down until it starts to slightly ooze out. Immediately roll in sprinkles of choice.



Prayer for Our Nation

Father of all nations and ages,
we recall the day when our country
claimed its place among the family of nations;
for what has been achieved we give you thanks,
for the work that still remains we ask your help,
and as you have called us from many peoples
to be one nation,
grant that, under your providence,

our country may share your blessings
with all the peoples of the earth.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

Source: Collect for Independence Day, New Roman Missal



Want a fun and easy idea to keep the kids occupied while waiting for the fireworks to start! Make a God's eye patriotic craft as shown on Catholic Icing. The craft represents the all seeing eye of

God. All you need to make it is yarn, craft sticks, glue and scissors.
Click the link below for directions and more information.

<https://www.catholicicing.com/gods-eyes-or-ojo-de-dios/>

God-Family-Friends

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

THEME: A heavenly reward awaits all who follow Christ, loving God above all people and things.

GOD

Livestream Mass:

English: <https://www.youtube.com/c/DioceseofJolietIL/videos>

Spanish:

https://www.facebook.com/pg/MonteCarmeloJoliet/videos/?ref=page_internal

Readings:

English: <http://usccb.org/bible/readings/062820.cfm>

Spanish: <http://usccb.org/bible/lecturas/062820.cfm>

Gospel Videos:

English: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V8iEX0Hw2uw>

Spanish: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PM9gffY3Zic>

Song: "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S8jvfdDtoqY>

FAMILY

Younger children: [Coloring page](#)

Older children: [Crossword puzzle](#)

Focus on Jesus: Ask family members to look around the house for something that can remind them to focus their life on Jesus. Have each person explain why.

Dinner Conversation:

Jesus gave us the two greatest commandments. The first is this: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Mark 12: 29 - 32

- How do these great commandments apply to Jesus' words, "Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me..." Matthew 10: 37
- How do we show our love for God, our parents, our children, and neighbors?
- What are some specific actions we can do this week reflecting our love for God and neighbors?
- How does loving God above all other relationships affect our relationships with others?

- God loves you! How do you feel God's personal love? **"Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it"(Matthew 10:37-39).**

We are followers of Jesus and we believe that one day we will join him in heaven. In our families it is important to take the time to talk about what it means to truly follow God on a daily basis and the sacrifices we may each have to make to honor his will for our lives.

1. What does it mean to truly follow God?
2. How do we follow God as a family?
3. What sacrifices for God have we made in our own lives?
4. Are we willing to stand up for God if our beliefs are questioned?

FRIENDS

Brainstorm as a family to come up with a service project you can work on together. Talk about how serving others shows that Jesus is important in your lives.

HOW CAN WE PRAY FOR YOU TODAY?

Our parishioners are on an email prayer chain and they would like to give you the gift of prayer. Just give them your request and the person's first name by emailing prayer@hsccl.us.

Even though it's summer...let us know if there is anything you would like to see in the newsletter? Email Kim at asst.dre@hsccl.us with ideas, links, or videos.

Peace,
Jane, Kim, and Claire



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