



SOMETHING DIFFERENT

LITURGY BYTES *by Michele Hall*



Faith Formation
LIFELONG AND ONGOING

As we are moving through the season of Lent and keeping up with perhaps some personal changes in our lives, this week's reflection will focus on ways and opportunities to broaden our lives as Catholic Christians. This process has a formal name, that of Lifelong Formation. Since I see that our Religious Education ministry needs more Catechists for our young people, I thought a reflection on how to develop your faith life might also benefit those who serve in our parish program and maybe those who are thinking of joining.

Let's return to the term mentioned above: "lifelong formation." It is a process grounded in the Gospel which greatly assists us in following Jesus more closely and helps with our own spiritual growth and those events of our lives. These experiences, guided by the Holy Spirit and in communion with God and one another through the Church, help us to answer our baptismal call to live as missionary disciples through the seasons of our lives. Lifelong formation simply leads us to a deeper belonging in the life of the Church and in one's parish community. You might be asking, how do I participate?

Faith formation is intended for all people at different stages of their lives. By virtue of our Baptisms, we are called to live a mature faith. A great way to begin that journey is to volunteer as a Catechist for a small group of young people. Training and the Catechist's manual lay out lesson plans and background on each subject area. This experience, along with your own faith, can motivate you to want to know more.

We try here at the parish to offer programs to enhance significant parts of our faith, like The Chosen series, etc. Also, at times, we focus on the Sacraments and the Mass itself in this column. Please let us know other areas that might be helpful to you. Our Pastoral Team is here to be of assistance and guidance. Please pray about it as the final days of Lent are before us.

Have a prayerful, peaceful, and healthy week ahead!