



Children & Families Newsletter

MARCH 2025



LITTLE HANDS BIG HEARTS

Registration is open for Wednesday night programming for K-5th graders during Lent. Little Hands Big Hearts will take place on Wednesdays, March 12, March 26, April 2, and April 9, from 6-7 p.m. in Gillespie Hall. Join us as we prepare food each week to donate to people in our community who are hungry.

Space is limited, so register today at RedeemerSarasota.org/Register.

FIRST COMMUNION CLASS

Some children at Redeemer begin receiving communion when they are baptized. Others wait to receive until they complete communion instruction. Both are accepted practices. The Episcopal Church affirms that any baptized Christian is welcome to partake in The Feast as a full member. When that happens with children is determined by parental preference.

A tradition at Redeemer is to expose our kindergarteners (and older children who may have missed it as kindergarteners) to the mystery and ritual of the Holy Eucharist through a four-week Instructed Eucharist Class during regular Sunday School time. Students in the class receive their "first instructed Communion" with their families and church family on Easter Day at the 9 a.m. service. Our series of First Communion Classes begins on Sunday, March 9. Parents attend with their children.

Register at RedeemerSarasota.org/Register. For more information, contact Redeemer Director of Children's Formation Mandy Latta at MLatta@RedeemerSarasota.org.



JAZZ & JAMBALAYA

Don't miss this annual event on the eve of Ash Wednesday!

Join us on Tuesday, March 4, at 6 p.m. in the courtyard. Tickets for dinner and music are \$20. Music-only tickets are \$10. Children are free.

Sign up at RedeemerSarasota.org/Register.



ASH WEDNESDAY

Marking the beginning of Lent, Redeemer offers three Ash Wednesday masses: 7 a.m., 10 a.m., and 6 p.m on Wednesday, March 5.

The administration of ashes will be offered at all three services. The nursery will be open for the 6 p.m. service beginning at 5:45 p.m.

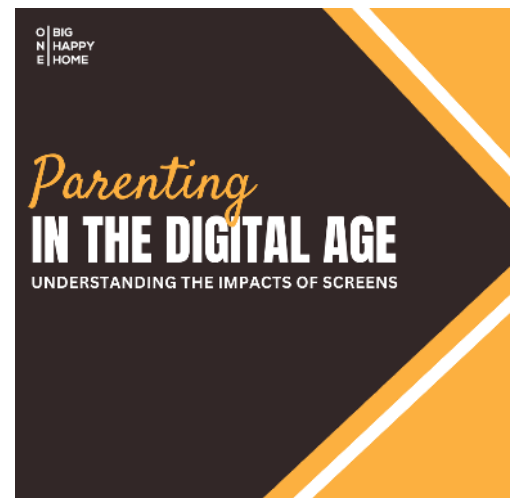
There will be no children's programming on Ash Wednesday.

PARENTING IN THE DIGITAL AGE

The Children and Youth Ministry departments at Church of the Redeemer are excited to offer Parenting in the Digital Age, a free workshop designed to help adults understand the impact of screens on brain development as well as the social, emotional, and spiritual challenges our young people face.

Ryan and Kayla North from One Big Happy Home will bring scientific data to the table in a relatable way. With Gospel-centered principles, Ryan and Kayla will help us look at how we, as Christians, can help parent our kids in a world surrounded by screens. This workshop is open to anyone who wishes to attend, not just parents.

Parenting in the Digital Age will take place on Sunday, March 30, from 6-8 p.m. in Goewey Hall. Please sign up at RedeemerSarasota.org/Register.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Registration for Redeemer's 2025 Vacation Bible School is now open! VBS will be held at Redeemer from Monday, August 4, through Friday, August 8, from 9 a.m. to noon each day.

Our theme this year, "Windows to Jesus: Miracle and Ministry," will take a look at Jesus' ministry and miracles using Redeemer's beautiful stained-glass windows to tell the stories. Our 2025 Chair Jamie Spears will lead a team of volunteers. As always, we need adult volunteers and youth aides to sign up to help.

The fee is \$25 for the first child in a family, and the registration cost decreases with each additional child. Scholarships are available.

Space is limited. Sign up today at RedeemerSarasota.org/Register.

ST. SCHOLASTICA SUNDAY

In late November 2024, almost 500 full-time K-12th grade public school teachers in Sarasota and Manatee counties applied for a Redeemer St. Scholastica Grant for classroom enhancements. Through the generosity of the parish and hard work of Redeemer kids, we raised funding to award a record 87 grants.

The grants were hand-delivered to classrooms from Parrish to North Port in mid-January along with an invitation to our 9 a.m. mass on Sunday, March 2, when recipients will be welcomed and honored. There will also be a presentation after the service in Gillespie Hall. Join us as we celebrate our 2025 grant recipients!

To donate to our St. Scholastica Fund for future grants, visit RedeemerSarasota.org/Give and choose "St. Scholastica Fund" from the drop-down menu.



BED BUILD

Our March Serve on Saturday project will be our annual Bed Build. Join us in the Redeemer courtyard and help us build beds for local children in need on Saturday, March 8, from 9 a.m. to noon.

You can also donate to help cover part of the cost of the mattresses by visiting RedeemerSarasota.org/Give and selecting "Bed Build" from the drop-down menu.



JUST DO IT

As Just Do It comes to an end, the children of Redeemer would like to thank the following parishioners for giving their time and talents this year:

- Jeff Trefry
- Charlotte Smith
- Fr. David Svihel
- Jason Kubisiak
- Monica Miller and Marcia Miller
- Ian McGowan

MARCH HIGHLIGHTS



Sunday Morning Adult Offerings in March

- **St. Scholastica Sunday**, Welcome reception for St. Scholastica Grant recipients in Gillespie Hall, March 2, 10:10-10:40 a.m.
- **Tell Me More**, Sundays, March 9, 16, 23, and 30, 10:10-10:40 a.m., Gillespie Hall. This class offers a more in-depth look at the morning's sermon.
- **Redeemer Forum**, Sundays, March 9, 10:10-10:40 a.m., Goewey Hall, "Eden and Afterward" conclusion; Sunday, March 16, 23, and 30 10:10-10:40 a.m., Goewey Hall, "How Jesus Saves: Atonement for Ordinary People"

Wednesday Night Adult Offerings

- **Blessing 101: A Bird's Eye View of the Sermon on the Mount**, Wednesdays, March 12 and 19, 6-7 p.m., Goewey Hall with Fr. Strohm
- **Adult Confirmation Classes**, Wednesday, March 26, April 2, and April 9, 6-7 p.m., Goewey Hall with Fr. Wilson

Whiffenpoofs Concert: Sunday, March 2, 7 p.m., purchase tickets at RedeemerSarasota.org/MusicEvents

Jazz and Jambalaya: Tuesday, March 4, 6 p.m., Courtyard. Sign up at RedeemerSarasota.org/Register.

Ash Wednesday: Services at 7 a.m., 10 a.m., and 6 p.m. The nursery will be open for the 6 p.m. service.

Alpha: Thursdays, 6-8 p.m., Gillespie Hall. Sign up at RedeemerSarasota.org/Register.

Children's Chapel, most Sundays, during the 9 a.m. mass

Nurseries are open on the second floor of the Robinson Center during the 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. masses on Sundays for children under 4. The nurseries open at 8:45 a.m. on Sunday mornings and remain open through the 11 a.m. mass. The nurseries are also open on Holy Days throughout the year.

Sunday School is offered weekly for VPK-12th grades. Students go to class immediately after receiving communion at the 9 a.m. mass. VPK-8th grades meet on the second floor of the Robinson Center. High School meets in the Babcock Youth Center. Classes are offered during the 1 p.m. mass in Spanish.

Redeemer Choir School for grades K-12 meets on Wednesdays from 4-5:45 p.m. To register, email Redeemer Organist-Choirmaster Sam Nelson at SamNelson@RedeemerSarasota.org.

The acolyte program is open to children and youth in 1st grade and up. Acolytes serve at all masses and special services. To register, contact parishioner Jody Maxwell at jody@jjmcpa.net.



For more information about Children and Families at Redeemer,
contact Director of Children's Formation Mandy Latta at MLatta@RedeemerSarasota.org.