



ADULT FAITH FORMATION

RCIA – ADULT EDUCATION – BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

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AFFLAC – Adult Faith Formation: Leadership and Catechesis

February 8, 2009



I'm reading a book entitled "The Blessing of Friendship" by Karla Dornacher and thought I'd share the following piece. Enjoy! Mary Jane

*Friends are flowers in the garden of life.....The tending of a friendship garden is no small matter and not to be taken lightly. Many a beautiful garden has gone to ruin for lack of proper care. Here are some tips that may prove helpful:*

Heart-Soil Preparation

*Prepare the soil by tilling it with God's unconditional love. Remove any rocks of judgement or critical attitudes. Pull out any roots of fear and jealousy. Destroy the seeds of gossip before they can take root.*

Seedtime

*Seeds of friendship may be found most anywhere. Plant with care, using kind words and a listening ear. Germination is usually spontaneous, so be watchful. To ensure growth, water with kind deeds and a generous heart.*

Maintenance

*Make sure you give each friend plenty of room to grow. Be realistic.....don't expect a marigold to smell like a rose. Fertilize generously with laughter and joy. Water deeply with tears of empathy and prayer to develop healthy roots and a stronger, more stable friendship.*

*Cultivating a friendship garden requires patience, perseverance, and time...but it's worth it.*



**FRIDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY – Friday mornings @ 9:30 AM.**

**SUNDAY MORNING/EVENING BIBLE STUDY- Sunday Morning @ 10:30 AM or Evening @ 7 PM.**

**BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY**

*One-on-One Counseling is available and we have many books in our Bereavement library, for loan, on all kinds of losses. Call Mary Jane for details.*



*Our next 6 week Support Group will be in the Spring Mark your calendars now. May 14<sup>th</sup> thru June 18<sup>th</sup>.*

**RCIA – 2008 - 2009**

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults



*RCIA meets today, February 8<sup>th</sup> @ 9 AM, in the Burke Wing.*

*Today's topic: Further study of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and the Beatitudes.*

*Please keep all of our Candidates in prayer.*

**Helping Hands**

**"HELPING HANDS" MINISTRY**



*Our "Helping Hands," assist with funeral receptions for our parishioners by bringing food donations, setting-up, serving, take-down, and clean-up. Still, our biggest need is to have some sturdy men to help set up and take down the tables and chairs. If you can help, call Pat Pool, at 40-796-5876. 410-796-5876.*

**PARISH PRAYER CIRCLE**

*Our parish "Prayer Circle" prays for the needs of our parish family. "Evening and morning and at noon I will pray, and cry aloud, and He shall hear my voice" Psalm 55:17*

*Anyone may call or email in a petition to:*

*To Frank Stanitski  
[fspsosjs@verizon.net](mailto:fspsosjs@verizon.net)  
410-796-4582*



*"Prayer helps us to respond to misfortune with courage, to react with confidence and to rebound with enthusiasm."*

*- William Arthur Ward -*