

Q&As

Frequently Asked Questions about *ARISE: Together in Christ*

ARISE: Together in Christ is a spiritual renewal program centered on small faith sharing groups that provide an opportunity to take some time for ourselves, to get to know one another, and deepen our relationship with Christ. The foundation of the Church is not brick and mortar, it is Christ and community; let's make our foundation even stronger together in Christ!

When will the ARISE program begin in Season Two? ARISE is a three year program consisting of six seasonal sessions. The second season begins February 22-28 which includes Ash Wednesday and the start of Lent 2009. The theme is *Change Our Hearts*.

How large are the faith sharing groups? Each group will be made up of 8-12 people.

Where and when will the groups meet? Sessions will be held in parishioners' homes and at CCSB parish sites such as the Rectory, Parish Center, and Fr. Moore Hall. Groups will be meeting at different times and days; we hope to offer enough choices to accommodate all participants' schedules.

How many meetings are there in a session? Six consecutive sessions – throughout Lent!

How long is each meeting? 90 minutes.

What will we do in these sessions? Parishioners will share prayer, life, and faith in a way that will enrich their own lives and the life of our parish community. There will be time to get to know one another, pray together, and share experiences through reflections. We will break open God's story through a Gospel reading and explore how the scripture is speaking to each of us. Each participant will be challenged to take what we hear and share, and live it out through the actions of our daily lives.

When can I sign up to be in a group? CCSB will be inviting parishioners to sign-up to participate in these small faith sharing communities Sign Up Sunday for Season Two will be February 14 & 15. Sign up cards and information will be available before and after each Mass and on our website.

What do I need to know when I sign up for ARISE? The sign up card asks for your name, address, telephone and/or email address. You will indicate your preference for a day and time to meet. Lastly, you will be asked if you would like to host the sessions in your home.

How will I be assigned to a group? You will be assigned by the ARISE Team based on your choices of day and time, and any specific interest group, you select on your Sign-Up Card. It's ideal to stay with the same group for the 6 weeks as you will develop a close bond with other members.

Is there a fee to sign-up? Each participant will be asked to make a donation of \$5.00 to cover the cost of the booklet they will be given to use for the six week session that would help the parish defray some of the cost connected with ARISE.

If I do not join a group this Lent, may I join a group for another season? Absolutely!

If I join a Lenten group, must I continue with the same group in later sessions? Or must I continue at all? Each season will have its own separate sign-up time; however it is possible that many groups will remain the same for each season. We understand that people's lives change and you may need to change groups for any number of reasons. You are free to let us know if you need to change. Similarly, it may happen that you need to drop out of a group altogether for any number of reasons and we understand that as well. After participating in a group, you may also want to become a small group leader and start another group.