



Chef Maureen Benton will lead Holyoke Community College's new "Bake With Me" series, which is aimed at parents and their children. The series will run four consecutive Fridays via Zoom beginning March 5 at 5:30 p.m. Each class will focus on a different dessert.

HOLYOKE

HCC baking series made for families

Holyoke Community College will offer a weekly series of baking classes in March aimed at parents and their children who want to learn to create tasty treats together under the guidance of a professional chef.

"Bake With Me" will run four consecutive Fridays via Zoom beginning March 5 at 5:30 p.m., led by Chef Maureen Benton, an instructor in HCC's Culinary Arts program.

Each class will focus on a different dessert: March 5 (Key Lime Pie); March 12 (caramel cheesecake); March 19 (blackberry cobbler a la mode); March 26 (royal icing sugar cookies).

"Bake With Me" offers families a fun way to connect, laugh and learn together from the comfort of their own kitchens," said Michele Cabral, HCC executive director of business, corporate and professional development.

"Since the pandemic started, my husband and I have been Zoom cooking with our grand-

son and love the memories we are creating as a family."

Each session costs \$49 and comes with a special baking kit. The kit includes a shopping list, recipe cards and two kid-sized kitchen tools: Session 1 (apron and whisk); Session 2 (chef's hat and spatula); Session 3 (oven mitt and ice cream scoop); Session 4 (dish towel and rolling pin).

Kits will be available for pickup, dropoff or delivery by mail.

"When kids learn to bake, they develop confidence, and, without knowing it, they are also practicing their math skills, as they learn to measure ingredients and scale up or scale down a recipe," Cabral said. "But the classes will also offer kids a chance to play in the kitchen. They get to experiment, be creative, and, in the end, they'll have a yummy treat to share with their families."

Class size is limited. To register for one or more sessions, go online to hcc.edu/bake-with-me