

August 18, 2015

Dear Parents,

“I invite Christians, everywhere, at this very moment, to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ, or at least an openness to letting him encounter them; I ask all of you to do this unfailingly each day. No one should think that this invitation is not meant for him or her, since “no one is excluded from the joy brought by the Lord.””

Pope Francis

Our 2015-2016 Religious Education program begins on Monday, September 14th. The schedule for grades 1 through 12 will be the same as last year. Pre-school children (ages 3-5) will meet one Monday a month for classes. Contact me if you are interested in helping out!

The class schedule for the year is as follows:

Grades 1-5 meet on Mondays from 4:00-4:45pm

Grades 6-7 meet on Mondays from 5:00-5:45pm

Grades 8-12 meet on Mondays from 6:00-7:00pm

Pre-school (age 3-5)-one Monday a month (schedule TBA)

Our volunteer teachers and aides generously give a lot of time and effort to ensure that our children receive a good Catholic education. We ask that everyone be punctual for classes, attend regularly, and be respectful of teachers, fellow classmates and church property.

Although a large part of the religious education program is proper preparation for our students to receive the sacraments of Reconciliation, First Eucharist, and Confirmation, another major aspect of the program is to nurture graces received in those sacraments by continuing their education in faith and deepening their relationship with Jesus Christ. Thus we require that all students intending to receive a sacrament be enrolled in the program for two consecutive years and strongly encourage regular attendance beginning in grade 1 through grade 12.

As families, we FORM our kids in the faith by weekly Mass attendance and practicing our faith in the home. The religious education program continues

what we have begun by INFORMING them about the faith. Working together, we do our best to build a firm foundation in our Catholic faith. Please re-commit again this year to making weekly Mass attendance and religious education a priority in your family.

As we see from Pope Francis, we are all invited to renew our personal encounter with Jesus Christ. Last year, a group of adults from our parish read, studied, and conversed together about our Catholic faith. I plan on beginning this Adult Education again in the fall. Please consider joining us!

Lastly, Sunday, September 20 is Catechetical Sunday in the United States. The religious education teachers will be commissioned and blessed at the 10:30am Mass on that day. There will be coffee and donuts afterwards and a chance to meet the teachers. Come join us as we kick-off the year!

Take care and God bless

Teresa Jackson

P.S. The Church Picnic is Sunday, September 13! Try it out! It is a ton of fun for the entire family. I have a feeling this is the year where kids will outnumber adults 😊