

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Parent Letter
- 2017/18 Registration and Tuition
- Kick off and Opening Mass
- Class Schedule
- 1st Grade Parent Meeting
- 2nd Grade Parent Meeting
- Policy Reminder
- Teachers Needed!

1ST GRADE PARENT/GUARDIAN MEETING

Please make note of a parent/guardian meeting.

Sunday, August 20th
10:00AM

(after the 9:00AM Mass)

OR

Tuesday, August 22nd
7:00PM

This is an opportunity for us to meet, to discuss the religious education program, and to answer any questions you may have.

All 1st grade parents/guardians are asked to attend one meeting.

Dear Parent/Guardian;

With summer winding down and the new school year starting August 29th, it won't be long before you are cramming in the last few days at the beach. While I know life can be hectic at the start of each fall, it is a sign of healthy, active lifestyles and a testament to your love and dedication as parents/guardians that your children are involved in many and varied activities. I am especially grateful that you include religious education. In an effort to help you and your family settle into your fall activities and routines, **we will start the 2017-2018 religious education program the week of September 25th**. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions, comments or concerns. I am here to assist you and your family. I hope these last few weeks of summer will be sunny, restful and fun for all!

PLEASE TAKE A FEW MINUTES TO READ THROUGH THIS COMMUNICATION.

Peace, Cathy Bowes

OPENING MASS / KICK OFF

On **Sunday, September 24th, 9:00AM**, Fr. Mark will celebrate Mass for the parish children and their families enrolled in the program. What a wonderful way to celebrate our Catholic faith by coming together with our parish family as the children from grades 1-8 begin a new year learning about their faith. **Please mark this on your family calendar.**

2ND GRADE PARENT/GUARDIAN MEETING

There are two parent/guardian meetings held during the 2017-2018 religious education year to go over the requirements and preparation for each of the sacraments your second grader is preparing for. For the **preparation of 1st Reconciliation**, two dates are being offered:

Thursday, October 5th, 7:00PM

OR

Sunday, October 15th, 10:00AM *(after the 9:00AM Mass)*

All second grade parent/guardians are asked to attend one meeting.

CONFIRMATION PROGRAM

Please note that the Confirmation Sacramental Program is under the direction of Lisa Harney. Information regarding the program will be **sent from Lisa** in a separate mailing this Fall.

TEACHERS NEEDED

As always, we need teachers for the program. If volunteering to teach or co-teach is something you think you might enjoy or feel called to do, please let me know. It is a wonderful way to grow in faith, serve the parish, and touch the lives of young people. What has worked well in the past is to co-teach with another adult. This can lessen the time commitment for both volunteers. **Parents who volunteer as teachers will receive free tuition for one child.**

Three teacher meetings have been scheduled for **Tuesday, September 5th, 7:00PM**, **Thursday, September 7th, 7:00PM** **OR** **Sunday, September 10th, 1:00PM**. These meetings will provide an opportunity to review materials, update CORI forms, share ideas and answer questions. You are asked to attend just one meeting.

REGISTRATION

It is very important that the religious education office have updated registration forms from every family each year. **Please fill out the attached registration and photo release form, and return with payment.** These forms may also be found on our website at stmaryhull.com, Religious Education page. Registration is not complete until all forms and payment are received. **Early registration discount ends Thursday, August 31st.**

TUITION

The tuition fees collected by the religious education office provide the program with approximately 30% of its operating budget. The balance of the costs of the program is supplemented by the entire parish through the weekly offertory collections. **If payment is a hardship, PLEASE contact me. No child will be excluded from the program because of money.** To receive a tuition discount or waiver, call me at 781-925-5446. All conversations will be kept confidential.

Early Registration Discount (before August 31):

1 Child: \$80 2 Children : \$120
3 Children: \$150 4+ Children: \$175

Registration after August 31:

1 Child: \$90 2 Children : \$140
3 Children: \$175 4+ Children: \$200

We encourage you to pay online using WeShare. Simply go to stmaryhull.weshareonline.org! Religious Education option is located near lower left hand side of screen.

NEW CLASS SCHEDULE

Monday:

Grade 7: 4:00-5:00
Grades 6 & 8: 5:15-6:15

Wednesday:

Grade 2: 4:30-5:30

Tuesday:

Grade 3: 4:30-5:30
Grades 4 & 5: 5:45-6:45

Thursday:

Grade 1: 4:30-5:30

If a scheduling conflict exist for your family this year, please contact me to discuss other options.

POLICY REMINDER

It is a long standing policy here at Saint Mary of the Assumption Parish that the sacramental programs are two year programs for both *First Reconciliation/First Communion* (grades 1&2) and *Confirmation* (typically grades 9&10 with the sacrament received in the fall of grade 11).

If you intend for your child to receive the sacrament of Confirmation in high school, it is important that your child remain in the religious education program (grades 1-10). There are no "gap years". Students who miss all or a large portion of the middle school years (grades 6-8) will be required to participate in a one year make-up program during grade 9 and then enter the two year Confirmation program in grade 10.