

Religious Education

2016/17

Nov-Dec Parent Letter

St. Mary of the Assumption Parish

St. Ann Church

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November 1, 2016

Dear Parent/Guardian;

The year is under way and I am thrilled to be seeing the children each week. What great energy they bring to the church. The parish is very fortunate to have a wonderful group of catechists teaching this year, my heartfelt thanks to these generous women. With the holiday season fast approaching, there are a number of items to bring to your attention. **Please take a moment to read through this letter and the attached November/December calendar.**

Drop-off and Pick-up: Please drop students off for class on the Samoset Ave. side of the church building and pick students up after class on the railroad bed side of the church. Because there is often another class coming in, this set-up allows for a safer transition for the children coming and going. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Class Cancellation for Grades 3 & 4: Classes for grades 3 & 4 are cancelled for **Tuesday, November 8th Election Day.** Classes will resume on Tuesday, November 15th.

Annual Fish Fry at Jake's: This annual parish activity is happening on **Wednesday, November 9th at Jake's Restaurant.** Seating is between **2:00-9:00PM.** **Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$7 for children (12 yrs. & under).** Chicken fingers are available for those who do not eat fish. **Take-out is available for busy families!** Tickets may be purchased at the parish office, Jake's Restaurant, and after all of this weekend's Masses (Nov.5th/6th). **100% of the ticket proceeds are donated to the parish.**

November is Religious Education Month: The **weekend of November 19th/20th,** the **Daughters of Saint Paul** will be holding a **Book Fair after all the Masses** in the gathering space. A wonderful selection of bibles, non-fiction and fiction books, CDs, and DVDs for all ages will be available. Plan to visit their display and choose items to enrich your family's faith. Many Advent and Christmas gift ideas.

Thanksgiving Day Mass: Begin Thanksgiving by giving thanks to God. Come share the Eucharist with your fellow parishioners and bring home a loaf of bread from our table for you to share at your table on **Thursday, November 24th @ 9:00AM.** You will have plenty of time to make the Hull High School football game @ 10:00AM. **GO PIRATES!**

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Advent Wreath Making: Sunday, November 27th 1:00 to 3:00PM. Advent is a wonderful season of preparation, but unlike the commercial aspects of pre-Christmas, Advent calls us to quiet expectant waiting. It is a season of hope. Our children love rituals... teach them this age-old ritual of lighting a candle on the Advent wreath each Sunday for the four weeks of Advent. Come with your family, make your own wreath while enjoying hot chocolate and cookies, and listening to carols. Please let us know if you plan on attending as we must order supplies ahead of time. (The cost is \$25, payable on the day of the event.) **Sign-ups will be occurring after all the weekend masses up to Sunday, November 19th.**

Dufresnay Haiti Foundation Craft Fair and Bake Sale: Our annual fundraiser for Dufresnay Haiti Foundation (a 501c3 foundation) will be held **the weekend of December 3rd & 4th.** The children from our religious education program in grades 1-5 will be making crafts in class the week after Thanksgiving. The bake sale is run by our middle school students and we need lots of goodies baked and dropped off on Saturday afternoon, December 3rd or before the Sunday morning masses. Parents interested in helping with crafts or working the tables after the weekend masses, please let me know by phone or email cmbowes1207@gmail.com

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Thursday, December 8th: This is a Holy Day of Obligation with Masses being offered at 9:00AM and 7:00PM.

Middle School Movie Night: On **Monday, December 12th @ 4:00-6:30PM** at Hull High School Auditorium, students from grades 6-8 will come together to view a movie. More information will be provided in the next few weeks. Please mark your calendar.

Children's Christmas Pageant: This year, the annual Children's Christmas Pageant will be presented on **Sunday, December 18th @ 4:00PM** with a reception to follow in the gathering space. The Christmas Story will be told by and acted out by children of the parish. Music will be provided by the parish choir. All children in grades K through 8 are invited to participate. **Children interested in a speaking part should attend a short rehearsal on Friday, November 18th @ 4:15-5:00PM.** Rehearsals are held on **Friday afternoons from 4:15 to 5:30PM beginning December 2nd.** Sign-ups for all interested children will take place on November 12th/13th after the masses. Children will also have an opportunity to sign-up during the week at their religious education classes.

Our children develop their Catholic identity by being part of the parish; our parish is enriched when you and your family actively participate in it. It is my hope as we prepare for the Advent and Christmas Seasons, that in addition to Mass on Saturday/Sunday, your family will take advantage of the seasonal activities here at Saint Mary's Parish.

Wishing you and your family a wonderful Thanksgiving and blessed filled Advent and Christmas Seasons.

Peace,

Cathy Bowes

Director of Religious Education

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