



April 2021

Dear Religious Education Parents/Guardians,

Thank you for your commitment to handing on the Catholic Christian faith to your children. The role of the Religious Education (RE) staff and program is to support you in this commitment, which you made when your child was baptized. We are here to encourage, equip and support you to be what the Church calls you to be: the primary teachers of faith for your children.

It is with great joy that I am anticipating bringing the children back into the school building in the fall for Religious Education classes if the COVID-19 numbers allow it.

#### *REGISTRATION*

The attached Religious Education Registration/Fees Form (double-sided), Emergency/Medical Information/Photo Release Form (double-sided) and Acknowledgement Forms should be returned together as quickly as possible. If you are new to our RE program, a copy of your child's baptismal certificate (other Sacrament certificates if applicable) is required. **8th Grade: Please see attached 8TH GRADE RE/CONFIRMATION PREPARATION sheet.**

Our classes fill on a first-come, first-serve basis, so it is important to submit your completed forms and fees early to secure your desired class time and save on tuition fees. Registering early also allows us to recruit enough catechists/aides and purchase the needed amount of books/materials. You may mail your completed forms or put them in the white mailbox outside of door #18 (Parish Administration Center).

Please select your payment choice on the Tuition & Sacrament Fees form and pay that amount along with any Sacrament fee. See Fees form for online credit card payment information. If paying at this time presents a financial burden, please contact me so other arrangements can be made.

#### *SACRAMENTS*

Two consecutive years of RE classes are required prior to First Reconciliation (Confession)/First Eucharist (Communion) and Confirmation according to Diocesan and Parish guidelines. If your child is seeking the reception of a Sacrament and did not participate in a RE class in 2020-2021, please contact me. Baptism is available for children who have not yet been baptized. For information about Baptism, please contact Shawn Denning at 630-985-2351 x130.

#### *PARISH MEMBERSHIP*

In order to be effective, the RE program needs to be strengthened by family participation in the total liturgical, social and educational life of the parish. For this reason, as well as general communication, it is expected that families be registered in the parish if their children are attending St. Scholastica's Faith Formation. Sunday Mass attendance is a core Catholic faith practice and attending Mass where your children are being formed in their faith is beneficial to their sense of community and belonging.

#### *RELIGIOUS EDUCATION ORIENTATION*

RE orientation for grades 1-7 will be held the first day of classes. Everyone will gather in the church at the appointed class time before the children are sent to the classrooms. As least one parent is required to attend the orientation which will last the length of the class. 8th grade orientation is listed on 8TH GRADE RE/CONFIRMATION PREPARATION sheet.

If you have any questions as you complete the forms, please do not hesitate to contact me at the phone number below or our RE assistant, Renee, at 630-985-9255 x116.

Yours in Christ,

*Beth Cartner*

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