

St. Mary's Parish
Office of Religious Education



June 1, 2023

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Another year of growing closer to God has passed! Many wonderful things happened this year, as our Level 3 children received our Lord in Holy Communion for the first time on May 7, level 2 children receiving their First Reconciliation, and our 8th graders received the Sacrament of Confirmation. Please keep these children in your prayers as they continue their journey of faith.

Junior High did exceptionally well this year at the Spaghetti dinner, raising a total of \$1814.00 from the dinner. Additional donations from Men of St. Mary's and the Ladies Auxiliary brought the total to \$2,414.00, exceeding last year's total! Kudos to the Junior High Students and their families who helped prepare and serve meals, and special thanks to the master chefs, Ralph and Suzanne Touch.

There was much positive feedback on the Bedtime Bible Nights last summer, so we are going to be offering it again this summer: June 19, July 10 and August 3, from 6:30 to 7:30. This program will be for preschool (age 3) to kindergarten (age 5). We will have an interactive story, a craft and a song/game for the children. Parents and siblings are invited to stay for the fun!

The Parish Picnic will be on August 20th, with lots of food, fun and games for the little ones.

Last year, levels 1 through 5 started the "Word of Life" curriculum from the Augustine Institute. Early technical hiccups have been resolved, and we are looking forward to another year with this excellent program. This year, level 6 will join the "Word of Life" program. Levels 7 and 8 will be starting a new program "Chosen" from Ascension. This is a two-year program specifically geared to prepare teens for Confirmation and develop an understanding of the faith we profess. The program has many resources for the catechists, students, and parents.

2023/2024 Registration forms are available online on the Parish website. Please make sure you fill out and return a Youth Participation/Medical Information form with the Registration form.

NOTE: Thanks to a generous donation of Confirmation gowns, we will not be collecting sacramental fees for the junior high this year (only). Next year, we will collect \$20 from 7 and 8th grade students to cover other sacramental expenses.

We are updating the Parent Handbook. It will be available soon.

Your role as a parent is essential to helping your child's faith grow both at home and here on site. If you would like to volunteer, please check out the Religious Education tab on the parish website.

Yours in Christ,

Ann Pergosky

CRE St. Mary's Church

