



St. Mary, Our Lady of the Annunciation

Religious Education Newsletter

March/April/May 2019

Calendar

Tuesday, March 5th Class (prep for Reconciliation)

Wednesday, March 6th **Ash Wednesday Mass at 8:30am & 6:30pm; Noon—distribution of ashes only.**

Sunday, March 10th **Confirmation Session #9 9:30-11:30am All students encouraged to attend 11:45am Mass**

Tuesday, March 12th **No Class—All families invited to our Parish Mission with Fr. Elias 6:30pm**

Sunday, March 17th **NET Ministries Confirmation Retreat 12-7pm at St. Charles in Newport. All 8th grade students to attend.**

Tuesday, March 19 Class/Sacrament of Reconciliation

Thursday, March 21st **Sacramental Holy Hour 5:45 pm in church. All 2nd & 8th grade students to attend. Fr. Jim leads the Rosary.**

Tuesday, March 26th **Family Class—Soup and Bread/Stations of the Cross**

Tuesday, April 2nd **No Class—spring break**

Tuesday, April 9th Class

Sunday, April 14th Palm Sunday **Easter Egg Hunt 12:45-2pm in school hall.**

Tuesday, April 16th **Year End Ice Cream Social**

Tuesday, April 23rd **Confirmation Mass rehearsal in church at 6pm. All students and sponsors to attend.**

Wednesday, April 24th **Confirmation Mass with Bishop Battersby at 7pm. All students to arrive to school hall by 6pm for group photo**

Tuesday, April 30th **First Communion Rehearsal in church at 6pm**

Saturday, May 4th **First Communion Mass 4:30pm Students to arrive to gathering space by 4:00pm**

As you can see by the calendar, we are quickly approaching the end of the catechetical year!! Our sacramental students will be very busy. Our 2nd graders had a wonderful retreat. Our 8th graders have their retreat in just a week and a half. Parents, don't forget that early registration for next year will take place at our year end gathering and ice cream social. Anyone who registers early and pays in full will receive \$10 off their tuition for next year. EVERY YEAR of your child's religious education is important. Students cannot expect to understand our faith with only a few years of instruction. Even as adults we are still learning about our beautiful Catholic faith. And remember, the most important thing our faith asks of us is keeping the Sabbath Holy and attending Mass EVERY SUNDAY. Mass is a gift from God and we should treat it as an honor! God bless you all.

Sacramental Students

Our second and eighth grade students will be busy these next few months as we finish preparing them for their sacraments.

Second graders: Our students had a wonderful retreat last month. They should be attending Mass every Sunday and can come to the Communion railing, cross their arms and receive a blessing. This will help better prepare them for First Communion day.

Eighth graders: Sponsor forms should be turned in by now. If I do not have a sponsor form, the student cannot be confirmed. They should also be completing their service projects and turning in the Outreach forms.

Lastly, we hope that students and families are praying for each other, asking the Holy Spirit to guide us and keep us on the path leading to Christ. It is Christ who gives us the Sacraments as a gift, to bring us closer to Him, and fill us with the graces offered from each sacrament.

The Holy Season of Lent

As we enter into our holiest of seasons as Catholics, think about how you can truly embrace this Lent as a family. Some ways to do this are simply by praying together, attending Mass together, come to Stations of the Cross on Friday at 7pm, volunteer at a soup kitchen or homeless shelter, commit to reading the Bible every day (even if it's a children's version), make one of your Friday meatless meals together (kid's love mac and cheese), and be sure to attend the Holy Triduum as a family. What a beautiful way to celebrate the Death and Resurrection of our Lord and Savior!

Thank You

We are so pleased that you bring your children to our religious education program here at St. Mary. We know you have other options, but we feel our program is one of the best in the Monroe Vicariate. Our team of catechists have years of experience and are dedicated to teaching your children the beauty of our faith. We thank you for all you do to make sure our program is growing! Be sure to continue to check the bulletin for all our parish events happening this spring and summer. And don't forget to check out the new Catholic Youth Group. They meet once a month. We'll see you at Mass!!