



May 15, 2012

Dear Parent(s), Guardian(s),

The Religious Education school year at Saint Francis of Assisi Parish for 2011-2012 is coming to an end. I would like to take this opportunity to join with the catechists and other volunteers in thanking you for the privilege of working with you and your sons and daughter in the process of educating and growing in faith this past year. At the same time, I know that we are all grateful for the dedication and gifts of our catechists and volunteers. I am excited about the possibilities for next year and encourage you to invite/introduce another family to the Religious Education program here at Saint Francis of Assisi parish.

At this time, I would also like to provide you with some information in order to begin registration for next year's program. Please take the time to complete the **entire** registration form **with attention to detail** in order to let us know the following information:

- What school your child/children is attending/will attend
- What grade level they will be in the fall (both school grade and Rel. Ed. grade, if different)
- If your child has *any allergies or medical conditions we should be aware of*
- If your child has any learning disabilities, so we can best accommodate him/her
- ***Your email address, please!*** (Please be clear and careful in notating your email address. I did find that communication by email was very effective this past year, but I had a significant number of email addresses that bounced back)
- If you are new to the parish, or if this is the first time you are registering your child/children, we must have a copy of their baptismal certificate. (If they were baptized here at SFA, simply state that).
- Clearly indicate your preference for day of the week and class time. Assignments will be made on a first-come, first-served basis

It is important for you to know that the general registration fees will not go up again this year. There will be a slight increase in the Confirmation fee for Grade 9 in order to support associated activities. The additional fee will be the same for both Grades 9 & 10 at \$60.00 per student, per year. Please keep in mind that the total Religious Education contribution represents only a portion of the expense to run the program. A significant contribution comes from the Parish.

Your expected base contribution to the Religious Education Program this year, 2012-13:

\$95.00	-	one child
\$140.00	-	two children
\$165.00	-	three or more children

Additional Fees:

\$40.00	-	First Penance/First Communion
\$60.00	-	Grade 9 and Grade 10
\$20.00 ONLY	-	Grade 11 (Administrative fee)

The class schedule for the fall will be as follows:

Sunday	K-6	10:05-11:05 a.m.
	1-6	11:35-12:35 p.m.
9 & 10 Designated Sunday Evenings		
The once-a-month Sunday night Family/Youth Mass & class will be held <u>5:00-7:00 p.m.</u>		
Regular class week Sunday(s) will also run <u>5:00 -7:00 p.m.</u>		
Monday	1-6	3:50-4:50 p.m.
Tuesday	7 & 8 same night	6:45-8:15 p.m. Designated Tuesdays

Please register early! In order to expedite that process, several options are available. We would like early enrollment to be a big success, so we are planning open afternoon and early evening options with an incentive. Those completing their registration during those sessions will be entered into a raffle for a \$100.00 certificate to be applied to the registration fees (\$100.00 at each session). The dates are: Monday, May 21st from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Thursday, May 24th from 1:00-5:00 p.m. If you prefer to register by a different method or at a different time, you are always welcome to complete the forms available on-line and drop by the office to register or send in paperwork with a check for the registration fees.

Volunteers will be needed as regular catechists and substitute catechists at all grade levels and to serve the parish program in a variety of other ways. I warmly invite and encourage our young people to consider volunteering as catechists for the early grades or to serve as teacher aides in the classroom with other age groups. Additional help is also needed by adults and/or our young people to assist with the service program, retreats, and special events. Please refer to the website for a flyer that has information about the different ways that you might contribute your time and talents to the religious education program here at Saint Francis. Training and support will be provided and there are opportunities to grow in and share your own faith.

Our Sunday classes surround the Mass schedule. The *Family Liturgy* is celebrated at 9 a.m.; Liturgy with choir is at 10:30 a.m.; and Liturgy again at 12 noon. The Mass and class schedule is designed to make Mass attendance easy for you and your children. Our faith is strengthened by *weekly participation at Sunday Mass*.

Please be reminded that our sacramental programs follow Archdiocesan guidelines *requiring a two-year preparation*. Children must attend 1st grade religious education classes as well as 2nd grade to receive First Penance and First Communion. The Confirmation program requires attendance in both 9th and 10th grades as well as participation in service activities and a Confirmation retreat. Students attending parochial high school are required to attend all 10th grade classes as well as participate in service activities and the retreat.

Thank you again for your support and we look forward to another year of sharing faith with you and your family.

God Bless You,

Rev. Kevin M. Sepe
Pastor

(Mrs.) Lynne Jensen
Director of Religious Education