

October 2018

ST. MARY & ST. PHILIP RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STAFF NEWSLETTER

MOST IMPORTANTLY

Thank you all for your dedication and commitment to helping in our religious education program. Never underestimate the impact you have on a young person's life and faith development. That is HUGE!!! You are helping them come to know and love Jesus Christ. How awesome is that! Thank you for all that you do for this ministry. Your service is greatly appreciated.

UPCOMING EVENTS OVER THE NEXT MONTH OR SO

Well we are quite busy, but that is good. I've just listed below several items for your awareness. I remember someone telling me at the catechist/aides gathering back in August that they would like to be more aware of upcoming events, so I thought a periodic newsletter might help in that regard. I realize that not all items will apply to everyone since there are some things are grade specific but it is easier for me to just do one newsletter than 2 separate ones for elementary/jr.-sr. high so I thank you for your understanding.

Weekend of Oct 14/15— Diocesan Inventories I have included in your class folders a copy of the diocesan inventory for grade 1-5 catechists/aides for the grade level you teach. This is just for your review at this point. Please take time to look it over. If you see anything that coincides with the material you are already teaching, please just highlight or reinforce that particular point with your students. At the end of the month on the weekend of October 28/29, all grades 1-H.S. will be taking the first round of these. Student copies will be given to you that weekend. If you prefer to break up the inventory and have students do sections over a couple of classes that is fine also. Or for those of you with younger students, you can choose to perhaps give them the questions orally and have the aide help in having students write down the responses on the paper. There is room for flexibility here so if you have thoughts/ideas on how this might work better for your particular class, please let me know. Once students have completed the inventory, they are to be collected and returned to me in the folders. For those students who might be absent, please mark their names on a blank copy of the inventory and I will try to follow up with having them complete the inventory at a later time. Please let me know if you have any questions regarding these. There will be a second round of these again in the Spring.

Oct 14/15 Grade 5 Level Mass This weekend for catechists/aides who teach Grade 5, I have included information in your folders to begin to discuss and plan for the Grade 5 level Mass with your students. There is a short note to parents announcing and asking their support at this scheduled Mass which is on Sunday, November 11th at the 10:30am Mass. There is also attached a sign-up sheet for students to indicate how they would like to participate. Since it is also Veteran's Day I would like students to be able to hand out some thank you cards to any Veterans that might be in attendance at that Mass. If you would like to take the time for students to make personalized cards as a class project that is up to you. I will also have some preprinted cards available in case that does not occur. Thanks to Ed Romeo, our website coordinator, our religious education tab on our website also has an online sign-up sheet for this grade level mass. So catechists/aides, please send these home with your parents this weekend so we can get back responses and then go over with the students what they will be doing during that liturgy.

October 19 Father Daughter Dance 7-9pm St. James

October 21/22 Rosary for the month of October We honor our Blessed Mother during this month and invite students and their families to join us as we pray the rosary upstairs in the church. For both these days, we will meet as usual and students will go to class for the first 15 minutes so that attendance can be taken. At 9:30am on Sunday, and 4:45pm on Monday, catechists and aides should bring their classes upstairs to the church for the rosary. We do have rosaries and prayer cards to give to the students. You are welcome to take these at any time if you haven't already done so. I will leave them on the stage for the month of October. Please help yourself.

October 28/29 Fall Round of Diocesan Inventories for students of all grades as mentioned above

November 4/5 RE Thanksgiving Food Service Project for all classes. This weekend handouts will be going home with students announcing our annual Thanksgiving Food Service Project. There will be listed different food items for each grade level. Students will be asked to bring in their indicated items the following week to religious ed. classes at both St. Mary & St. Philip on November 11/12. Since this also coincides with the Grade 5 level mass date, I would also like to include those food items as part of the Offertory procession during that Mass.

November 11/12 Grade 5 Level Mass 10:30am St. Mary Church

Grade 9-10 Gathering Day 11:30am-4:30pm St. Philip Church

(no Gr 9-10 classes in the evening, only classes for Gr 6-8 on 11/11/18 at St. Philip

November 18/19 Regular Classes

November 25/26 NO CLASS THANKSGIVING BREAK (and a well- deserved break for us after such a busy couple of months)

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

Our Newest Saints October 14th during the Synod of Bishops on the Youth, Pope Francis will officially recognize the sainthood of Pope Paul VI and Oscar Romero through canonization. Pope Paul VI was a pope of dialogue who succeeded Saint Pope John XXIII and continued the Second Vatican Council and subsequently implemented many of its reforms. Oscar Romero who was gunned down during Mass in 1980 in El Salvador will become the first Salvadoran saint. **Come learn more about these new saints at free Movie Nights. We will even throw in free popcorn and drinks. Pope Paul VI will be shown on Wednesday, October 24th at 6:30pm in Saint Mary's Hall. Oscar Romero will be shown on Tuesday, October 30th at 6:30pm in Saint Mary's Hall. Please rsvp to Darleen at dfarland@stmarysgrifton.org**

Confirmation Class Benefit Dinner Service Project Saturday, October 27th St. Philip Church
Serving begins at 5pm Proceeds to benefit the Daigle/Rixham Fire Relief Fund Come on by and say hi to Norm, Jean, Randy and Debra and support our Confirmation students as well. 50/50 Raffle- Admission \$10 Tickets available at parish offices.

A BLESSED THANKSGIVING TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES—WE CERTAINLY GIVE THANKS FOR YOU AND ALL YOU DO FOR OUR YOUNG CHURCH!!!