



St. Mary, Our Lady of the Rosary
Santa Maria, Nuestra Señora del Rosario
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September 23, 2021

Dear families:

I am addressing this letter to those who have children who need to “catch up” on their Sacraments. I use the word “catch up”, but the truth be told, the best time to receive the Sacraments is when the possibility is available. Let me first express the excitement of the parish to have the opportunity to share our Catholic faith with your children.

The Church teaches that parents are the primary educators of their children. The words and examples you live at home influence your child’s openness to receiving the gift of faith more the information we can provide. To better facilitate your role, we will have a few classes to assist you in discussing and answering questions your children might have. This information will be addressed in the section titled “PARENTS”.

TO OUR CHILDREN/YOUTH:

St. Mary Parish is happy to have the opportunity to provide an understanding of the Church and her teachings to you. It will not be a learning process alone, but a change to place those teachings in practice. Attendance and participation are necessary and expected. There will be two parts to their preparation:

- ❖ On Sunday, you will attend class with others in their grade. These classes will take place in the Youth Education Center at 9:15 a.m., following the Spanish Mass.

- ❖ With the exception of the high school group, who meet on Wednesdays, you will be gathering with others each Monday, at 6:00 p.m., in similar grades, at the Parish Office building, 110 SW 6th St., to help you grow in an understanding and appreciation of the Sacraments you are to receive.

We plan to move towards them receiving their Sacraments at the Easter Vigil 2022 celebration, the high Liturgical celebration of the Church’s year!

PARENTS

As primary educators of your children, we desire to provide you with as much information as possible. We plan to meet with the parents several times during this process to supplement your knowledge and discuss what your children will be receiving in these Sacraments. These gatherings will take place while your children are meeting in their classes on Mondays. More information and dates will be disseminated later in the school session.

CONCLUSION

The large number of children that we will be preparing makes this school year different and REALLY exciting! We look forward to the 2022 Easter Vigil being an exciting celebration for the entire parish!

Thank you for your trust and confidence in entrusting your parish with their spiritual preparation.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Kevin Ratterman