

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

A monthly newsletter brought to you by the SWOYCC Office of Religious Education

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Save the Date

The 2021 Diocesan Catechetical Conference will take place on Saturday, November 20, 2021 from 8:00 am to 4:00pm at the Sheraton Reston Hotel in Reston, Virginia. Here is the registration link: <https://forms.office.com/r/mup6VyRvni>. More details to follow in separate e-mail.

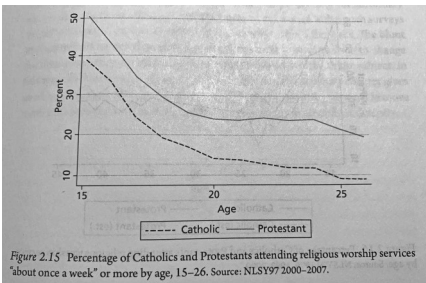


Reflection of the Month: More on Justice

Thomas Aquinas defined justice as a habit whereby a man renders each one his due by a constant and perpetual will. What is due anointed Church leaders, such as our Pope, from us? Reverence and obedience are due but scandals and corrosive social media cloud the piety we owe them. David's piety towards God's anointed, Saul, is an example for us. What is God's due and how do we pay that? St. Thomas states that religion is how we pay due honor to God. The degree to which we are reverent/religious or irreverent/irreligious in worship can be used to self-assess how well we render what is due God. It can include things like how often we attend mass or what clothes we wear to mass. Wearing skimpy or immodest clothes to mass is sacrilege and irreligious. Wearing one's finest clothes to mass honors God and is religious. It would seem that we ought to do that latter. Lukewarm would be somewhere in the middle. Justice to God is that we would render him his due, always and everywhere, but especially at mass.



Statistic of the Month



Catholic parents must focus on actively demonstrating their faith or risk their children's religion becoming superstition.

Saint of the Month: Holy Guardian Angels

This feast originated in Portugal early in the sixteenth century and has figured in the general calendar since the late seventeenth century. It is based on the belief that God assigns everyone an angel to guard body and soul, an expression of God's personal care for each individual. A similar belief is also found in Jewish and other religious thought. The feast associates the human race with the eternal song of praise in heaven (Matthew 18:10).

Wisdom from the Desert Fathers:

"Abbot Pastor said: Get away from any man who always argues every time he talks."



Administrative Notes:

Drop-Off/Pick-up

We have been very blessed to have a smooth start to the 2021-2022 school year. Thank you to everyone for your patience with the drop off and pick up process. One note for the pickup at noon – it is very important that once you select your method of pickup that you only use that method. So if you normally will be going to the 12:15 Spanish Mass but today you are not, **YOU STILL NEED TO PICK YOUR CHILD UP IN THE CAFETERIA – NOT THE CAR RIDER LINE.** We stage the students in the cafeteria based on their family number, so it will take extra time to have your child return to the front of the building if you decide to pick up in the car rider line.

Parent Meetings

Please note the following Parent Meetings during October:

- OCTOBER 3rd at 6:15 pm in the parish center for 7th grade/CONFIRMATION YEAR 1 parents and students to discuss the requirements for receiving the sacrament of Confirmation
- OCTOBER 24th at 7:00 pm in the parish center for 8th grade/CONFIRMATION YEAR 2 parents and students (those who will be confirmed on December 4th)

All Hallows Eve

We do have classes scheduled on Sunday evening, October 31st. This year, there is no obligation to attend Mass for All Saints Day (November 1st) because it falls on a Monday, so there is no Vigil Mass on the evening of October 31st. That would be the only reason we would cancel class. Please plan accordingly.

Mass Attendance Cards

Mass Attendance cards have been distributed to the students. Students are to place the weekly card (all cards are to be used on the date listed on the card) in the collection basket during the offertory of the Mass if attending Mass at St. William of York – your home parish. If you attend Mass at a different church one weekend, please attach your card to a bulletin from the church where you attended Mass and turn it in at the next class session. Attendance at Mass is used in computing a student's overall grade for each semester and counts as 25% of the overall grade. If you forget your card, you may write your child's assigned number or name on a slip of paper with the date and drop it in the basket. This should only happen occasionally. Please use the Mass cards which have been pre-printed for you.

Absences/Tardiness

A gentle reminder that you must notify the RE Office of an upcoming absence. If we do not receive a notice, an absence automatically gets recorded as unexcused." Also, a reminder that 3 tardies is equivalent to one unexcused absence