

ST. JUDE THE APOSTLE CHURCH

Office of Christian Formation

152 Tulip Drive

Lewes, DE 19958

(302) 644-7413

July 15, 2023

Dear St. Jude Parish Parent(s):

I hope this note finds you and your family well and enjoying these “lazy, hazy days of summer.” Savor all of this time & free moments with your children because, recalling back to those days when my own children were much younger, the days of summer always seemed to fly-by much faster than the rest of the year.

I would ask you also however to use some of this time to consider your important role as a Catholic parent; to raise the children in the Faith, and to “*give good example to their children.*” (*CCC 2223)

I recently came across this image on social media, and it immediately made me consider a number of things. First, of course, was our own pastor, Fr. Lewis, who reminds us weekly that we are ALL “*saints-in-the-making.*”

Second was just how difficult this simple commitment; this “vocation;” truly is. As I just pointed out, I remember all too recently the struggle of raising young children; the distractions; the competing commitments; the ease at dismissing the importance of our spiritual role “*just this once.*” See, that “once” can easily become twice; three-times; four-times; and, before you know it, habitual.



Parents, we are here to assist and guide you and your children as “partners” in this Faith education mission you have been given and have accepted by virtue of the children’s baptism. By offering weekly Pre-K through high-school Religious Education classes during the school year, we’re providing you the framework and the platform from which you can easier address and reinforce the spiritual maturation of all of your children. But, you must accept our offer to help.

I have enclosed registration forms for our Religious Ed Classes (Grades 1 – 8) which you may mail back to us or drop-off at your convenience. I’ve also sent you the complete schedule of classes planned for this coming year. More conveniently however, all of the registration materials can be completed in a manner of minutes on-line by visiting our web site: www.stjudelewes.org and clicking on the “Religious Education Registration 2023-24” graphic off our main page.

I ask you to take the few minutes right now to complete the proper registrations you may need. Don’t put it off “*just this once.*” Just like these fast-moving days of summer, September 17th & 18th will be here before you know it.

E-mail: michael.mcshane@stjudelewes.org

Website: www.stjudelewes.org

Ask around, or come see for yourself; St. Jude's has become a popular place to be. We know this. We hear it from parishioners and outsiders alike. We hear people praise the energy, enthusiasm, acceptance, and love they feel on our campus. We want your children to be a part of that.

Trust me when I tell you parents; our "vocation" as Catholic parents never ends. All of my children are now in their 30's, and I STILL struggle with *"did I do enough when they were younger, and what more can I do now to help them become a saint?"* Do everything you can now while they are their youngest.

As always should you have any questions, comments, or concerns please do not hesitate to reach out to Donna or me in the Religious Education Office by email or phone (302-644-7413), and know we will continue to ensure that *"Catholic things happen here"* at St. Jude's for you & your family.

I look forward to hearing from you shortly and wish you all a wonderful & relaxed summer break with the comfort and love of your family!

God Bless!

Michael J. McShane

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Director of Religious Education



* CCC: *The Catechism of the Catholic Church*