

12/02/20

Dear Parents:

I hope all of you and your families are healthy and doing well. I know things have been a struggle for everyone during this time. Know that you and yours are in my prayers. We have a tremendous amount of activities in the next few months, including Retreat, Archbishop Letter, Interviews and Confirmation. This is the information that we have right now. As always, this could change at any time, unfortunately. I will always let you know as soon as possible if anything needs to change. I again, thank you for your patience and cooperation. We WILL make this an incredible few months for your children, together!

The retreats are set for:

Saturday, January, 9th, from 10am-4pm.

Saturday, January, 16th, from 10am-4pm

BOTH WILL BE VIA ZOOM

You will receive in an email with a **Signup Genius**, where you can sign up for the date you want. I will tell you however, there will be a cap on the number of students on each day, to keep it balanced.

This retreat will be like none other. However, I am confident that my team can still make this an incredible and growing experience for your child.

I'm going to need your help with some things this year to make it work.

- 1) For this retreat to work, your child really needs to be in a private space with no distractions and **NO PHONES**. If possible, be in a room by themselves. Only then will they be more open to talk and share with others. This can be an amazing thing for some, but they need to know what they are saying is just between the retreat community.
- 2) Don't let anyone interrupt the retreat for your child, be it siblings, pets etc...
- 3) They will have breaks throughout, including lunch. Don't ask about the retreat just yet. Let them get through the whole thing, then share with you.
- 4) **We also ask that you write and collect Retreat letters for the candidates.**

This will take some coordination by both you and me. Your parts are to **keep this a secret from your child**, to write your child a letter, to solicit letters from their **sponsor, grandparents, siblings etc** ...and finally, to gather them together in a big envelope. Put this where your child will not find it. On retreat day, just before we start at 10am, you may give them the envelope.

BUT THEY ARE NOT TO OPEN IT YET! When the time comes, during the retreat, I will direct them to open the envelope.

Your letter is an opportunity to tell them how much you love them; what they mean to your family, and what your hopes and dreams for them are in their faith life. In the past this time was always a very meaningful time for the candidates. Parents can write their letter together or separate, just remember **it is a secret**. From my experience, ask for the letters **ASAP** from those you want to send. You will need to send reminders too, especially with the holidays. Ask them to get them to you **BEFORE Christmas**.

Each Candidate must write a letter to the Archbishop requesting that they be confirmed. They will talk about their preparation of the sacrament and explain why they want to be confirmed. I will have an outline for them. It is the candidate's responsibility to write, proofread and get me the letter. **Please type letter!** The Archbishop does read all of them and it makes it easier for him. The letters are then returned to me. You can give them to your teacher, drop them off at the parish office or email them to me. If you drop them off at the office or mail them to the office, please put Attention: Curt Meyers. Whatever is simplest for you! They do not need to be addressed; I will put all letters in one envelope and mail them.

I have to the letters to me from HT, GIFT and SHMS by Feb. 5th

From HN, by Feb. 14th

We will have **Confirmation practice on Wednesday, March 3rd for HT, GIFT and SHMS**, 6:30 pm at Holy Trinity Church. Parent/s, sponsor (if possible) and candidate are to attend.

Holy Name will have their practice on March 9th at 6:30pm in Holy Name Church. Parent/s, sponsor (if possible) and candidate are to attend.

Interviews will take place towards the end of February or beginning of March. I will get you details soon. At these interviews they are to turn in their completed Passport. Please check your child's progress on service projects and Passports.

Confirmation this year is for

HT, GIFT and SHMS, Sunday, March 7th at 2pm. It takes place at Holy Trinity Church.

Confirmation this year for **Holy Name** is, **Sunday, March 14th at 4:30pm Mass** in Holy Name Church.

That is a lot going on! I need your help to make sure all goes well. This is a very special time for your kids and hopefully we can make it special for them.

If you have any questions feel free to contact me at either by email or phone, cmeyers@htparish.org / 502-897-5207 ext. 1111.

Sincerely,

Curt Meyers

Holy Trinity/Holy Name

Director of Family Ministry