

Dear Parents,

Near the end of his life, and after founding a religious congregation with 5,000 followers spread all over the world, St. Francis of Assisi told his followers: "Let us begin, for up till now we have done little." It is up to us as parents to educate our kids in a religious and moral way. A lot of us will sit and watch and some will teach. Teaching and being involved in our parish community can be very rewarding in a spiritual and peaceful way. Don't be the one to say we have done little. Each day we can say: Let us begin! We are starting a new school year – let us begin. With God's grace and help we can accomplish great deeds.

### **Tuition**

We are asking a fee of \$30.00 per student, 1st through 12<sup>th</sup> grade, \$15 for Sunday School, with a cap of \$60.00 for a family. For non-parishioners, the fee is \$40.00 per student. No one will be turned away from the program if this is a financial hardship. Please find registration form on parish website. Send completed registration form and check to St. Isidore the Farmer Parish, 19812 E. 1000<sup>th</sup> Ave., Dieterich, IL 62424. Make check payable to St. Isidore Parish. **Teacher's children are free, but we still need the registration form signed.** We always need teachers!

### **Classroom Location**

Bishop Location: PreK-K – 1st floor Rel. Ed. Bldg.; 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> grades – 1st floor Rel. Ed. Bldg.; 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> grades – 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Rel. Ed. Bldg.; 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grades – new hall east wing; 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grades new hall west wing; 9<sup>th</sup> grade – old hall basement; 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grades upstairs old hall.

Grove Location: PreK-K – Parish hall; 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> grades – Parish hall; 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grades – rectory

**CELL PHONES ARE NOT PERMITTED IN THE CLASSROOMS.** If a student is caught using a cell phone in class, it will be taken from them and there will be a \$10.00 donation to get it back and the student's parents **WILL** be notified. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

### **Personal Safety Training**

The Office of Child and Youth Protection in Washington, D.C. requires safe environment training for children (PreK – 11) in religious education programs. We will be using videos during our regularly scheduled Sunday School and Wednesday evening PSR classes to communicate the tips on keeping our children safe. This is REQUIRED training each year for the children.

### **Youth Ministry**

This program is for our high school students. Many in the parish really give there all for this program. We are blessed that they have chosen this way to exercise their stewardship. The kids go canoeing and skiing, play volleyball and dodgeball, just to name a few of their activities. Parents, please sign up to volunteer your time as a chaperone or to assist in some way with the program. If you do not sign up, we will be assigned a month or activity. Encourage your teenager to come to our Youth Ministry events.

### **Reconciliation**

The PSR program will provide one opportunity for all children (Grades 2-12) to receive the sacrament of Reconciliation during this upcoming school year. The teachers will assist in preparation for the children for the reception of the sacrament of reconciliation. A Reconciliation Schedule will be posted in the bulletin Please note that your child should be receiving this sacrament with your family, ideally, once a month or every other month. Fr. Frank is available for confessions on Saturday afternoons and Sunday mornings. Look to other local parish websites or bulletins to find additional opportunities for Reconciliation that fit into your family schedule. Ensuring that your child receives the sacrament is YOUR

responsibility as his/her parent. When a child sees mother and/or father receive the sacrament, the witness value is extremely powerful.

### **Times of Instruction**

Class times are Wednesday evenings starting at 6:45 and concluding at 8:00 p.m. The children should not arrive before 6:30 p.m. They should go directly to their classrooms and stay there. Please be prompt. Preschool and Kindergarten will attend classes on Sunday mornings during the morning Masses.

### **Traffic**

Bishop -There is much congestion on Wednesday evenings during the school year. Please maintain a 25-foot driveway in front of Bishop Hall. There will be one-way traffic entering from the east side of church and then exit on the west side. Drive SLOWLY and watch for children running to and from cars. Grove - parents will enter the parish center at 8:00 p.m. to meet their child.

**\*\*If you are caught using your cell phone while picking up or dropping off you students, you will be get a phone call from the Coordinator of Religious Education.\*\***

### **Cancellation of Classes**

There is **NO** policy that states "If there is no school there is no religion." We have students from four (4) school districts. **Please do not assume that religion is canceled because your school district is closed.** **Please listen to radio stations WCRC, WXFY or WIKK for cancelation notices.** The teachers will be notified by telephone.

### **Rules for Absenteeism and Tardiness**

If a student cannot attend class, please notify the teacher before 6:00 pm

If the teacher is not notified in the case of the absence, someone from the Religious Education Office will call the parents.

If there are two or more absences in a row, Fr. Frank will call the parents.

### **Discipline**

First offense: the teacher will give a warning

Second offense: the teacher will notify the parents

Third offense: The teacher, area director and CRE will meet with the parents

Fr. Frank will serve as the appeal if parents feel there is an injustice

The area directors are: Pam Apke and Kim (Brian) Beckman for Bishop/Dieterich and Jesse Jansen for Island Grove. The Coordinator for Religious Education is Rosina Esker. The representative on parish council is Thresa Robards.

If you have concerns you want brought to the parish level, then please work through your area director and CRE and then to your representative on the Faith Formation committee of the parish council.

Let us begin this school year with hope and confidence that our children will continue to form a good conscience and grow in their love for God and his church.

7/30/2020