

Welcome Back to Religious Education 2020-2021!

I am praying all of our families are healthy and safe! I am praying we will survive this pandemic and come through this nightmare with a stronger faith! I am praying we find a vaccine, so our lives and our children's lives can return to normal! It broke my heart to tell our Confirmands, sorry you cannot have your sponsor here on your Special Day! I broke my heart to have our children receiving Jesus for the first time and not have their Grandparents here to share their joy. It breaks my heart that you have to choose to send your child to class or keep them at home. And then I remember, we are not in this alone! I believe there is only one set of footprints in the sand right now and God is carrying us all. Now I am not saying I always remember this, but when I take a deep breath, I know it is true! So, let's get our feet back on the sand, grab God's hand and let's make the best of this insanity.

I never want to bug you or put one more thing on your plate, because I know your plate is on overload already. I have tried to send you **little reminders** or simple ideas to help you and your family grow closer to Jesus. That is why we are here, to help one another! So just let us know what we can do to help you. This year is going to be a crazy one, so let's just expect it to be that and find the joy of today.

The Key to our RE Program is Pflaum Gospel Weeklies-everyone reads the same gospel – but offered at all age levels. One theme, one story, no matter the age, we all study the same gospel each week. So if you are doing RE "on campus" or "AT HOME" you can learn to pray more as a family and have the opportunity to talk with your children about something very important—God! And we are blessed to have our weekend Masses live streamed! So even if we cannot participate in person, we know our church and we know where we belong.

If you have not signed up your child for RE, now is the time! THANK YOU for all you did, and continue to do, to encourage your family to pray and stay close to Jesus during this pandemic. We know parents are the first and primary teachers of the faith. The Church entrusted you with that role at your child's baptism. It is the responsibility of the Church to support and build up parents—to coach you as the primary catechist.

For those of you who have signed up for ON CAMPUS. Thank you for trusting us to keep your child safe-I promise to do whatever necessary to keep them healthy! We have a few spots still open and as always, we are looking for more volunteers to help in the session or to be the Catechist.

If you have decided to keep your child "AT HOME", while this can be time consuming, it also can be a great way of sharing your faith. I will do my best to make sure you have all the tools necessary to deepen and share your faith. Once the Pflaum Gospel Weeklies arrive, you will be notified by email to come and get your packet of goodies. This year Pflaum has added a digital piece to their program. More details to follow. We are excited to begin this new partnership as you take the lead in helping your family grow closer to Jesus Christ.

May this year be a blessed and enriching experience for your family's faith journey! Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions, or concerns.

Maureen Brennan