



Greetings!

August 3, 2020

Hope this letter finds you and your family healthy and well rested! St. Mary's and St. Martin de Porress have experienced more trials and tribulations than any Parish in our Diocese! We came back from hurricane Harvey, then met Imelda only to face the Corona Virus. So yes! We definitely are living in accord with the Fruits of the Holy Spirit – patience, self-control, faithfulness!!!

As a community, we have all learned how to adjust to multiple schedules. Thanks to Covid, we have all experienced switching gears in midstream. This upcoming school year will challenge us, but never underestimate the power of the Holy Spirit. After much prayer and planning for our Faith Formation Program, we have put in motion a tentative **three phase** plan of action. Each phase will progress to the next level **only** when we meet the Diocesan requirements of health protection for our students and faculty.

The main idea for **phase 1** is to keep Wednesday nights “church night” and to keep all of us connected by personal contact. Parents will drive thru to pick up the Gospel Weekly and return home to complete. Teachers will facetime/call each student respectfully one hour later to connect with the families. (***Please see the drive thru catechesis schedule on flyer***)

Moving to **phase 2** will **only** take place after public school starts allowing us to see how the community is adhering to the kids being in a social classroom. Phase two will be an alternating schedule to help prevent multiple students in the building. We will take all precautionary standards using social distancing and the use of masks. Once rooms are used, they will be closed off until deep cleaning can be done. (Please see the phase two schedule on flyer)

If our community becomes a hot spot for the virus, we will need to resort back to Phase one of the Drive Thru Catechesis. Our plan of action allows us to bounce back and forth from one phase to another without having to close down our parish formation program again!!!

From the desk of Debbie Peltier

Phase 3 will probably not start until after Christmas. Phase 3 is simply bringing the students all back on Wednesday nights. Again, if we need to fall back to phase 2 or phase 1, we have that plan of action ready.

Our main concern is to keep everyone healthy, mentally, physically, and spiritually! We stress again that all our decisions will follow Diocesan guidelines. Please know if you have any questions or concerns, call the Faith Formation Office or call Debbie Peltier personally. Numbers are listed below.

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