

# Junior High Home Group Parent Information

Religious Education Office Hours Monday – Thursday 9:30AM-4:30PM  
201-444-0211

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## The Curriculum:

We will use the Call to Faith Curriculum. Students will cover two 6-session courses in their home group, *The Trinity* and *The Sacraments*. Each class should meet for a one and a half hour lesson each time.

Students must attend the 2 large group events, one penance service during Lent, and for 8<sup>th</sup> graders, they will also take the ACRE Assessment. Each child **must attend the 2 events with one parent.**

- Friday evening, October 15, there will be a youth rally in the Church at 7:30pm to 10:00pm. We are bringing in National speakers; therefore there will be a \$10.00 suggested donation per student payable at the event. One parent must attend with the child.
- Monday, April 4 The Parish Mission will be at 7:00PM in the church. All students must attend. One parent must attend with the child.
- Reconciliation Services for the Home Groups:
  - Tuesday, March 22 4:00PM in the Church
  - Wednesday, March 23 4:00PM in the Church

## Grade 8 students only ACRE Assessment:

All Grade 8 students will be required to take the ACRE Assessment mandated by the Diocese. It will be given on Thursday, February 10 from 4:00-5:30 and 7:00-8:30pm in the parish center.

## Being a model of faith to the children

It is important that we live the faith we are teaching to our children. We show our children the importance of our faith by attending mass on Sundays and Holy days, attending reconciliation services, and helping with service projects.

At OLMC our mass schedule is: Saturday at 5:30PM, Sunday at 8:00AM, 9:30AM, 11:00AM, 12:30PM, 3:00PM (Spanish mass) and 6:30PM.

## Catechist Certification:

You do not have to be a catechist to attend the workshops. Come build your confidence in teaching!

Every Catechist should be certified. There are three separate parts to the certification process, Spirituality, Methodology and Doctrine. This year we will offer the following. Mark your calendars!

**Doctrine Part 1**  
**Doctrine Part 1**

**Saturday October 23**  
**Tuesday October 26**

**Parish Center**  
**Parish Center**

<b>Spirituality</b>	<b>Tuesday November 16th</b>	<b>Parish Center</b>
<b>Spirituality</b>	<b>Saturday November 20th</b>	<b>Parish Center</b>
<b>Doctrine Part 2</b>	<b>Tuesday February 1</b>	<b>Parish Center</b>
<b>Doctrine Part 2</b>	<b>Saturday February 5</b>	<b>Parish Center</b>

Please note that to be certified in Doctrine you must complete both Part 1 and Part 2.

### **Protecting God's Children Workshop and Paper Work:**

**If you are teaching you must take the workshop and fill out the paper work by October 1, 2010.**

**All volunteers must have completed all Protecting God's Children paper work and have it on file in the Religious Education Office, and must have participated in a Protecting God's Children Workshop Offered by the Archdiocese.**

### **Protecting God's Children workshop here at Mount Carmel:**

**Thursday September 16, 7:00PM in the Parish Center**

Please register for one of these sessions at [www.virtusonline.org](http://www.virtusonline.org). If you attend a workshop at another site please bring your certificate to Lorraine Van Der Velde in the Religious Education Office. You also need to complete safe environment paperwork.

### **Attendance Policy:**

A child may miss one class during the school year but they must make up the work. The book will be sent home with your child so they may complete the missed lesson with a parent. Send the completed lesson with your child to have the catechist verify that the lesson was complete. If there is a second absence, the Religious Education office will be notified. Attendance for classes and events is mandatory.

### **Discipline Policy:**

We have shared with the catechist that if a student is being disruptive in the class they should call the parents to either sit in on the class or have you pick up your child. After class is over you can discuss the situation. Please allow the catechist to finish teaching the class. If the child is disruptive more than once, the Director of Religious Ed may get involved. The DRE, parent and child will meet to discuss how to handle the situation.

### **Allergies and special medical or educational needs:**

Please make sure that the catechist knows about any special needs or allergies your child may have.

**Our Parish Block Party is on September 19. Please come to the party and enjoy!**

### **Diocesan Catechist Convocation:**

The Catechist Convocation will be held on November 13, 2010 at Paramus Catholic Regional High School in Paramus. If you are interested in attending please contact the Religious Education Office before October 15<sup>th</sup>. This is a great opportunity to strengthen your faith and enrich your teaching skills. There are both national and local speakers will be sure to motivate us! Any parent is welcome to come to the convocation.