



Dear Parents/Guardians,

The experience of the Covid-19 Pandemic has necessitated a change in the way we provide religious education to our parish youth. In accordance with direction from the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, the 2020-2021 Parish Religious Education Program at St. Teresa of Avila Parish will be a Catechist Directed Home School Program. This is an exciting concept which will provide the opportunity for the Catechists to do what they love...teach the faith to our young parishioners while allowing the children to safely learn at home.

The Catechists will be the main point of communication for the families. Each Catechist will provide a weekly lesson plan to the parents/guardians by email. The children will be provided with the grade appropriate textbook which will allow them to follow along with the lesson plan. The Catechist Teaching Guide will be available online to each parent/guardian for additional reference and learning tools when needed. The Catechist will also be available for phone consultation at a pre-determined time each week to assist parents with questions.

The parents/guardians will assist the children with their lessons, arrange for the children to participate in activities at the parish if/when they are scheduled (eg. Retreats, Sacrament Day, Stations of the Cross, etc), and to meet with Father Wild as part of Sacrament preparation. The children will submit homework to the Catechist on a weekly basis either by email, fax or dropping off to the office. The Catechist will receive homework assignments, evaluate and track participation and performance as part of their records for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

The 2020-2021 PREP year will begin on Monday, September 14, 2020 at 6:30pm for grades 1-6. Grade 7 will begin on Monday, October 19, 2020 at 6:30pm. The Catechists will meet with one parent/guardian and their child to distribute textbooks and learning materials and answer any questions. The meetings will be scheduled in advance in 10 minute intervals. As the year progresses, the Catechist will meet with one parent/guardian and their child quarterly in November, January and March to discuss the program, the child's progress, and answer any questions.

Due to the program changes, registration has been extended until July 20. The tuition will be \$150.00 per student. If you have already sent in your registration please contact me for any adjustment necessary. The Catechists will be contacting you by email over the summer with further grade specific information, and if you have any questions about the program, please feel free to call me at 610-666-5820. We look forward to an exciting PREP year ahead!

Sincerely,

Gina MacDermott, CRE

Father Jerry Wild, Pastor

