



CHRIST THE KING PARISH

~ Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston ~

June 2010

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are pleased to inform you that registration for our 2010-2011 Religious Formation has begun. All students attending our Religious Formation sessions in the fall must register. Registration is required for grades 1 – 8 as well as Confirmation teens.

1. **REGISTRATION & FEES:** The **early registration fee is \$50.00 and is in effect until August 16th**. The Religious Formation Office is located in the Parish Center and the hours are: Mon., Wed., Thurs., and Fri., from 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM. After August 16th, the fee is increased by 15.00 per child for currently registered families. Please see the registration form for the fees for families with more than two children.

[A note about the late fee: as has been stated, we do not make a profit on our Religious Formation fees. Actually, we barely cover the costs. Because we must purchase the materials in advance, we depend on your payment. The late fee is meant to be a motivator, not a punishment.]

2. **CALENDAR:** The annual calendar is attached; the first session will be **Sunday, September 19, 2010 at 9:30am** (a reminder postcard will be mailed this summer). Those involved in sacramental years (i.e., First Communion) will have to attend some additional preparation sessions. A reminder: all sacramental programs (First Communion and Confirmation) cover a **two-year** period.
3. **PAYMENT:** We have not raised any fees for the 2010-2011 year. Please make checks or money orders payable to **Christ the King Parish** in the amount of **\$50.00 for each child** to be enrolled. Payment must accompany the registration form and should be placed in the enclosed envelope. *(Regrettably, any checks returned for insufficient funds or a closed account incurs a \$25.00 bank charge which must be covered by the family.)*
 - a. **LIST:** Please write each child's name with their 2010-2011 grade level on the check or money order. Materials can be ordered only for children that are registered.
 - b. **FINANCIAL AID:** Should your family's financial situation make payment difficult, **please** contact Fr. O'Donnell as soon as possible regarding confidential assistance. We certainly want your child/ren to be part of our program, even if your financial situation makes that difficult. (However, the only way to work out a solution is for you to contact Fr O'Donnell.)

Lastly, please let Father O'Donnell or Judy Sullivan know if you are interested in becoming a Catechist (CCD teacher); we happily welcome team teachers. (Don't worry, you are qualified!)

Thank you - have a pleasant summer!

Judy Sullivan
Coordinator of Religious Education

Rev. David P. O'Donnell
Pastor

GRADE LEVELS: PRE-SCHOOL – CONFIRMATION I*

(CONFIRMATION II WILL RECEIVE A SEPARATE SCHEDULE)

N.B. There is no classroom Catechesis on Sundays with a special “Event” listed.

9:30AM - COFFEE & GATHERING IN THE LOWER CHURCH

10:00AM - MASS WITH RF FAMILIES IN THE CHURCH

11:00AM - CATECHESIS FOR YOUNGER AGES & ADULTS IN TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

*5:00PM - CATECHESIS FOR CONFIRMATION I TEENS IN THE LOWER CHURCH

~6:00PM - LIFE TEEN® MASS IN THE CHURCH

~7:00PM - LIFE NIGHT® TEEN ACTIVITY IN THE LOWER CHURCH

September Sunday, September 19, 2010..... 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

October Sunday, October 3, 2010..... 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday, October 31, 2010..... 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

– New Liturgical Year begins! Year A: Gospel of Matthew –

November Sunday, November 28, 2010..... First Sunday of Advent

December Sunday, December 5, 2010..... Second Sunday of Advent

Event: 1st Comm. Enrollment & Breakfast with St. Nicholas (10:30am) Parish 100th Anniversary Mass (12:00 noon)

January Sunday, January 9, 2011..... Baptism of the Lord

February SATURDAY, February 5, 2011..... FIRST PENANCE

Sunday, February 6, 2011..... 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

March Sunday, March 13, 2011..... First Sunday of Lent

SATURDAY, March 19, 2011..... FIRST COMMUNION RETREAT

April Sunday, April 17, 2011..... Palm Sunday

May Sunday, May 1, 2011..... CONFIRMATION MASS, 6:00PM

SATURDAY, May 14, 2011..... FIRST COMMUNION MASS, 4:00PM

Sunday, May 15, 2011..... FIRST COMMUNION MASS, 10:00AM

June Sunday, June 5, 2011..... 7th Sunday of Easter

Event: End-of-School-Year Ice Cream Party

July Sunday, July 10, 2011..... 15th Sunday in Ordinary time

Event: RF Families Outdoor Social

August SATURDAY, August 13, 2011..... MASS, 4:00PM and PICNIC

Event: Parish Picnic, 2:00 - 4:00PM Mass

Absenteeism Policy (revised 04/07): We have worked carefully so this schedule rarely conflicts with holidays, school vacations, and major Brockton events. Given that we schedule just once-a-month in parish sessions (which are complemented by your weekly home study), **each Pre-School through Confirmation participant is allowed two (2) Sunday absences**; either excused or un-excused. Absent calls must be placed before a session begins and can only be called-in by a parent or guardian. Please remember to call 508/586-1575 and leave a message **before** the session begins.

Incident Weather: In the event of stormy weather, the parish Religious Formation schedule follows the Brockton school system, namely: *if Brockton schools cancel classes for the day, our Religious Formation sessions or meetings are cancelled as well.* Should a storm occur on a Sunday, please tune to **CatholicTV (Comast 268)**, or **channels 4, 5, and 7** for cancellation notices. You can also **call the main parish line** (508/586-1575) and listen for an updated opening message.

RELIGIOUS FORMATION PROGRAM PERSONAL SAFETY PROGRAMS Grades Preschool – Grade 8

Our Family Faith Formation Program has incorporated the Archdiocese of Boston's *Personal Safety Programs for Children* in grades Preschool through grade 8. The programs teach children the skills that will help keep them safe from dangerous or abusive situations. Children also learn to ask for help when they need it. The programs are in compliance with the United States Conference of Bishops (USCCB) mandate that every parish and parish school include such a program in their curriculum. During the course of the year you will receive a series of letters that provide information about how you can help your child learn and practice safety rules taught in the classroom lessons.

The program is divided in to three units for Preschool – Grade 8.

- **General Safety.** Teaches the children rules that will keep them safe in potentially dangerous situations.
- **Personal Safety.** Teaches children how to identify safe and unsafe touches. The children learn the touching rule which is no one touches the parts of your body covered by your bathing suit except to keep you clean and healthy (doctor). Also teaches the *Safety Steps*: 1) say words that mean “NO,” 2) get away, and 3) tell a grown up if someone is making you feel uncomfortable. Do not keep secrets about inappropriate touching. Emphasis is placed on *Safe Touches*, *Unsafe Touches*, and *Unwanted Touches*. With grades 4-8 the lessons also focus on keeping safe when a child is away from home (movies, sports activities, and other public places), peer pressure in various situations and Internet safety. Children have the opportunity to practice refusal skills, and communication skills.
- **Assertiveness and Support** – Gives children the chance to practice getting out of unsafe situations and ask a grown-up for help if they need it. Children need to be able to identify adults to talk to, both inside and outside the family.

Learning to be assertive takes time. You can help your child practice resistance and refusal skills by using the handouts that will be sent home. Research shows that children retain the skills they have learned only if they keep practicing them. (Note: *Parents who do not wish to have their child participate in the safety programs should notify Judy Sullivan in writing.*)

Thank you for being a partner in teaching safety. We recognize that personal safety can be a sensitive topic. Please call us anytime with any questions. Thank you.

RELIGIOUS FORMATION PROGRAM RESPECT LIFE PROGRAMS

Grades 7 and 9

Respect Life Education is a program of the Pro Life Office of the Archdiocese of Boston which works with parishes to help parents and students better understand and appreciate the gift of human life and the dignity of the human person. Explanations of the programs that are implemented here at Christ the King Parish follow:

CREATED FOR LOVE – GRADE 7: The Respect Life Office of the Archdiocese of Boston is committed to explaining the teachings of the Catholic Church regarding life, love, relationships, and sexuality. Studies show that Parents are the number one influence in their children's lives. The Catholic Church recognized parents as the primary educators of their children in matters of faith and morals, so we urge you to be informed about what your children are learning and take an active role in their moral formation.

The Respect Life Office has developed a curriculum to help parents teach their children about such issues called "*Created for Love.*" This program requires parental involvement as the classroom portions do not function as sex education programs. Instead, we ask YOU to explain sexuality to your children when you feel they are ready. The parish holds a Parent Information Session for parents of students in grade 7. This meeting is geared to help you better understand the issues related to human sexuality as well as questions that may come up with your child. Also we have resources to assist you in beginning the conversation. First is a DVD called "*Know Yourself,*" which was produced by Life Athletes, Incorporated. Parents can borrow it, and we ask you to return it when you are finished. You will also receive a booklet to keep called "*God's Great Plan,*" which will answer some of the questions your children might have. (Please view on the Archdiocese of Boston Respect Life Education website: www.respectlifeeducation.com.)

VOCATIONS OF LOVE – GRADE 9: "*The Vocations of Love Program*" is designed to introduce students in grade 9 to a Christian view of human sexuality. While it provides information that is medically accurate, it is intended to go beyond the message of abstinence, disease prevention and reducing teenage pregnancy; it is meant to issue a call to young people to live out their sexuality "sacramentally", as God intended it, and to proclaim that the love between a man and a woman is meant to reflect the self-giving love of Christ.

Topics include: God's plan (Sacred, Life-giving, Intimate Love and Commitment), Media Messages, The Meaning of Love, the Illusion of "Safe Sex" and more. The program is taught at two Confirmation sessions.