



Saint Raphael Parish School of Religion

Parent Newsletter - April 23, 2012

Dear Parents,

We'd like to begin by offering CONGRATULATIONS to all of the 8th graders who received the Sacrament of Confirmation yesterday! Also, to our second graders (and some third and fifth graders) who are receiving their First Holy Communion during the Easter Season! We are SO happy for you and your families during this very special time!

We're getting ready for our FINAL FOUR! Not NCAA basketball, but our final four weeks of the Parish School of Religion year! **SAVE THIS NEWSLETTER FOR DETAILS ABOUT THE FINAL FOUR!**

April 30th This will be a regular PSR class. Grade 2 continues to practice for their First Communion and Grade 7 will have part 2 of "Choose Life" classes with Youth Minister Amy Lashutka. Students who will have a role in the May 7th Mass will practice in church. (Beginning of Summer Backpack collection).

May 7th **Spiritual Olympics' Masses at 4:30 and 6:45 p.m.** Students come to PSR at the regular time! You and your family are invited to join us for **Mass at 4:30 p.m. or 6:45 p.m.** We are asking all students to wear their Olympic t-shirt or a shirt in any color of the rainbow. Our Mass will be focusing on how all God's children are part of the Body of Christ and can be a blessing to each other! **Parents who are Eucharistic ministers** are welcome to assist at this Mass. Please contact Miss Telepak, if you are able to help.

May 14th NO AFTERNOON PSR. Evening classes will take place as usual. **May Crowning** will be celebrated in Church at 7 p.m. that evening. All PSR second graders will wear their First Communion outfits and meet in the Lunchroom at 6:40 p.m. Afternoon PSR students should attend the May Crowning with their family. Everyone is invited to bring a rosary and a flower for Mary. The prayer service will take about 45 minutes. A reception follows in the Lunchroom. We hope parents and all students will attend!

May 21st Final Class of the year. Each classroom will be collecting money or items throughout May to fill a backpack for an inner city child to attend Summer Camp. All students should come to class at their regular time. Classrooms will meet in the Gathering Area at 5:00 and 7:15 p.m. for the blessing of the backpacks.

- ◆ Our final service project for this year will be assembling Summer Camp backpacks for Cleveland's inner city children of Zacchaeus House at the West Side Catholic Center. Throughout our final four weeks, **each classroom** will be collecting money and items to fill a summer backpack for a child. **Please consider sending a dollar and /or a donated item listed below.** The teacher will use any donations to purchase a new backpack). Each class will talk about ideas for what to include. Some suggestions are crayons, markers, a coloring book or puzzle game pad, a beach towel, sunglasses, and a pencil pouch with pens and pencils. Each class will choose the age and sex of the child that will receive their backpack and will label it as such. The children who will receive the backpack don't have the blessing of going away on a Summer vacation. This day-camp will be their only "time away" this Summer. *Out of all the service projects we do at PSR, THIS is the one that receives the most comments and thanks!*
- ◆ **Attention Parents of Eighth Graders!** The deadline for scholarship applications for students attending Catholic high school is Friday, May 11th. Forms are being sent home today, and are also available at the Parish Office. We are grateful to our Ladies Guild, who makes this assistance possible!

In Jesus,

Miss Telepak & the PSR Faculty and Staff