



May 10, 2010

Dear St. Justin Families,

Welcome to St. Justin's Catechetical Ministry! We are offering new families to our program a **New Family Meeting on Monday, September 13, in the Parish Ministry Center, 7-8:30 p.m.** At this meeting you will receive a St. Justin Catechetical Ministry Family Handbook, and have an opportunity for your questions to be answered. Please save the date.

Our **Early Childhood program** for three year olds through First Grade takes place ***Sundays, during the 9am Family Mass, from 9-10am.*** This allows families to attend 9am Mass together with their older children, while the younger children experience a developmentally appropriate catechetical experience.

Our **Ongoing Faith Formation** for Second Grade through Junior High takes place ***Sundays, after the 9am Mass, from 10:15-11:30am.*** Feel free to stop by our Catechetical Office in Room 9 of the school buildings to see the reference materials available and share fellowship with fellow parents.

Our **Sacramental Preparation program** for children Second Grade or higher is immediate preparation for both the sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist. Registration for this program is ***in addition*** to registration in Ongoing Faith Formation. If you are interested in the sacramental preparation program and forms were not included in this mailing, please contact the catechetical office as soon as possible, at 983-0361.

In order to register in our Sunday Ongoing Faith Formation, please fill out the enclosed **Registration form** completely, front & back. Please communicate any special circumstances we should understand regarding your child, in order for us to best meet his/her and your family's needs.

As we strive to provide the most interactive, engaging, and safe catechetical experiences for your children, we require the ongoing dedicated volunteer support of our catechetical parents. Please find enclosed a **Family Service Hour form**. We are asking for a minimum of **two hours** of service each year, in order to maintain and improve the quality of our program.

Please return the registration & volunteer forms along with payment to the catechetical office by September 10, so that we have time to enter the information and schedule volunteers. We appreciate early payment, as it offsets the initial textbook and supply purchases.

Enclosed also is our complete **Catechetical Calendar**. Please note that Sunday sessions begin **September 26th**, with a **Beginning Of the Year (BOY) Parent Meeting, 9-10am** for parents of our **Early Childhood Children**, and **10:15-11:15am** for parents of our **Elementary Children**. (Parents need only attend one session, and only one parent need attend.) Class assignments will be posted in the school lobby, so please arrive with your children a bit early, walk them to their classrooms, and then return to the Large Hall for the Parent Meeting.

Some other highlights on the calendar are an Advent Family Adventure, a Lenten Family Adventure, a Safe Environment Training session, and a Closing Prayer Service. Both of the Family Adventures are designed for full family participation - there is no individual supervision for children without parents. The Safe Environment Training is a Diocesan requirement that will be discussed more fully in the New Family Meeting and again at the BOY Parent Meeting.

We hope your family enjoys and grows from your catechetical experience this year. Please consider a Sunday schedule of joining us for 9am Family Mass, and follow it with catechetics for the children and fellowship for the adults. We look forward to a joy and Spirit-filled year together!

Yours in Christ,

Tracy E. Sevigny

Pastoral Associate for Catechetical Ministry