

the Education Office at 682-4622, Ext. 15. This information will help us keep accurate records. The same applies with any personal contact information changes. Having accurate information is critical to notifying you in the event of inclement weather or short notice class cancellations. During such times, please refer to the parish website, the parish voicemail system, and/or your personal email.

#### **TEXTBOOKS AND HOMEWORK**

Your child's name should be written in the textbook. Homework assignments will be determined by your child's teacher. If the textbook is sent home, please ensure that your child brings the textbook back to class. If your child loses a book, a new one may be purchased. Remember that the most important homework is simply family discussion about our faith and the topics covered in RE each week.

#### **NO TOYS, FOOD, PURSES, ROLLER SHOES OR CELL PHONE USAGE**

Do not allow your child to bring any of the items mentioned. These items can be a distraction for all the children. The roller shoes pose a danger to others. The teachers are instructed to hold the items during class and return them when class is over. While in class, children are not permitted to use their cell phones.

#### **CLASSROOM DISCIPLINE**

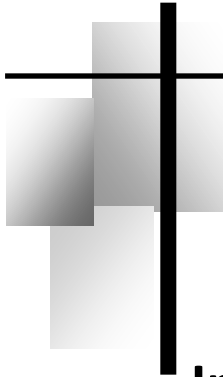
Please discuss with your child(ren) the importance of being attentive and respectful to their teacher and classmates. Repeated incidents of disruption or disrespect during class make it very difficult for the teacher and the other students. You will be contacted about repeated misbehavior and we will work together to resolve the problem. Your cooperation is appreciated.

#### **CHILDREN'S LITURGY**

At the 10:30AM Mass on Sundays during the RE year, children 4-6 years of age are invited to participate in the Children's Liturgy. At the Liturgy of the Word children in this age group will be invited by an adult facilitator to a classroom for an age-appropriate consideration of the Sunday readings. The children will return to Mass at the Offertory.

#### **SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION**

If your child has not received the sacrament of Baptism or is in the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade or older and has not received First Eucharist & Reconciliation, please contact the Education Office. We will work with you and your child to prepare them for the reception of these sacraments.



# **Our Lady of Victory**

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## **Catholic Parish**

### **Religious Education**

### **Information for Parents**

## **2009-2010**



Fr. John Cayer, Pastor

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Dear Parents,

Welcome to the Religious Education (RE) Program at Our Lady of Victory. Enrolling your child in our program is an indication that your child's faith formation is important to you. It also is an indication that you are willing to make the sacrifices necessary to bring your child up in the faith. We recognize and appreciate your sacrifices.

Our role as religious educators is a supportive one. The Parish RE Program is intended to support parents in the religious education of their children. Parents are the primary educators of their children. One hour and fifteen minute sessions, one day a week, cannot instill in children the values needed for a truly Catholic way of life. We strive to reinforce the religious values which are taught by prayer and example within the family unit.

Since this is the beginning of a new RE year, it may be a good time for parents to establish family religious activities which are supported by what the child is learning in RE. Setting aside special time to discuss with the child what was covered in the last RE class and helping them with RE homework says to the child, "This is important." Establishing regular family prayer time is also crucial to your child's spiritual development. Family Mass attendance on Sunday and Holy Days is the best way to impress upon the child the importance of regular Mass attendance. By attendance at Mass we remember the death and resurrection of Christ and are united with Him through His Word in Scripture, the Eucharist and through active participation in the Body of Christ. These concepts can be discussed with your child in age-appropriate language.

We will have a parent meeting in the church on the first night of RE classes, Wednesday, September 2nd from 6:45-7:40PM. I will be discussing important information about child safety and the Religious Education program. I encourage all parents to attend.

Each year our Diocese requires that we educate our Parish children regarding abuse prevention and personal safety. The classes will be taught at age-appropriate levels and from the "Sanctity of Life" point of view. If you would **not** like your child to participate, please fill out the "Opt-out" form and return it to the RE office.

The RE program is happy to support you in guiding your children in their faith journey as young Catholics. Please read the information in this handout. We look forward to a great year and welcome your active participation.

Yours in Christ,

Jennifer Stegner, CRE

### **PARISH MEMBERSHIP REQUIRED**

You must be a registered member of Our Lady of Victory Parish to register your children for the RE Program. Parish registration forms are available when you register for RE. You may also register at the parish office, Monday-Friday, 8AM-1PM or at Mass on the weekend.

### **RE SCHEDULE**

The RE class schedule for the year is provided at the time of registration. This schedule includes information about RE holidays, and parish religious activities. Keep this in a special place so that you may refer to it when needed. Any changes that are made during the year will also be on the parish website. There is also a link to a printable 2009-2010 RE Class Schedule.

### **CLASS TIMES**

The RE classes are scheduled on Wednesday evening from 6:30-7:45PM. It is important that your child arrives at least by 6:25PM. Late arrivals are very disruptive for the entire class. Out of consideration for our volunteer teachers and for the safety of your child(ren), please pick them up at 7:45PM.

### **PICKING UP YOUR CHILD(REN) DURING CLASS TIME**

If it is necessary to pick up your child(ren) during class, the following safety rules will apply:

1. Only a parent may pick up a child during class time.
2. The parent must come to the Education Office. The CRE will go to the classroom and get your child.
3. In the event of an emergency that necessitates your sending someone else to pick up your child, they must know a telephone number where you can be reached. Follow #2 above. **Your child will not be released until the CRE has verified your wishes by a phone call to you.**

### **ATTENDANCE**

It is very important that your child attend class. Attendance will be recorded at every class meeting. If you know in advance that your child will be absent please inform the CRE at 682-4622, Ext. 15. This information will be provided to the teacher.

### **WITHDRAWALS, ADDRESS, EMAIL AND PHONE NUMBER CHANGES**

If it is necessary to withdraw your child from the RE program, please notify