

PREP Newsletter – Fall, 2013

Parents,

As we prepare to celebrate a new Church Year, begin the season of Advent, and prepare our hearts to celebrate the Incarnate Word of God, I wanted to take a moment to share some news, pass on a few reminders, and let you know how things are going so far this PREP year.

Bad Weather Information – All reports tell us that we may be in for a heavy winter. In the event that PREP must be cancelled due to any inclement weather, please be advised of the following: I will make the decision and contact the Rectory, all catechists, and the volunteers who call the Spanish-speaking families. Catechists will call their aide and all children on their class list. I have volunteers who will call Spanish-speaking families. Please listen to WJBR (99.5), WSTW (93.7) for closure announcements. If PREP is not cancelled, but you feel uncomfortable with road conditions in your area, then please do what you need to do in order to keep yourself and the children safe.

First Reconciliation Day – is Saturday, December 7, at 10:00 am in church. Please keep our 85 First Reconciliation candidates in your prayers as they celebrate this wonderful sacrament of God's healing grace for the first time.

Confirmation – We congratulate our 57 Confirmandi who were anointed by Bishop Malooly on Nov. 9, and pray that the Holy Spirit remain a strong, driving force throughout these new, fully-initiated Catholics!

Christmas Shopping – Need some help getting that shopping list pared down? Please consider participating in the SCRIP program, right here in our own parish! Gift cards can be purchased every weekend after all Masses, in the St. Francis (parking lot) vestibule of Church. Attached to this newsletter is a flyer for ordering those extra gift cards for Christmas. If you visit the website – www.glscrip.com, you can see the hundreds of gift cards offered. The parish receives a percentage of each gift card sold. This is an easy, practical way to contribute to the life of the parish without spending more than you do for your monthly needs. See Mrs. Romano if you have any questions or would like more information.

Parish Outreach – Thank you to the PREP families who answered the call to donate to the Parish Outreach food closet. Many families are helped weekly by our Outreach. Please remember to drop off any time you come to Mass. The collection boxes are in each vestibule.

PREP Survey – Please remember that the mid-year PREP surveys will be headed home in January, along with PREP Progress Reports. It is most important that all families participate in this venture so that we can evaluate the timing of Sunday classes, Mass attendance, and the new PREP curriculum. Remember, this is your chance to respectfully voice any concerns or comments.

Youth Ministry – Jr. High (7th & 8th Grade) group meets on the 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month, following 12 Noon Mass. Please feel free to join us whenever your schedule allows! We meet in the Convent. The Sr. High group is open to anyone in high school. We meet on the 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month, from 6:30 – 8:00 pm, also in the Convent. An upcoming topic for both groups is a presentation on cyber/social media safety. Please watch for flyers with more information!!

Upcoming PREP dates: PREP will be closed 11/27, 12/1 for the Thanksgiving Holiday. For the Christmas holiday, PREP will close following class on Wednesday, Dec. 18, and reopen on Sunday, January 5.