

Subject: Parish Campus Update

Date: October 29, 2016

Religious Education Program Updates

We are very pleased to report that we have 227 youths enrolled in our 2016/2017 program. We have 147 students in our Kindergarten – 8th grade. These classes are held at Holy Trinity School on Wednesdays from 6:00 – 7:15 pm. We have 80 students enrolled in our High School (9th – 11th grade). These classes are held at St. Michael Parish on Wednesdays from 6:15 – 7:30 pm. Our students represent 137 parish families from St. Michael & Holy Trinity parishes. Weekly attendance in our classes has been commendable!

Parents -- Thank You for bringing your children every week to classes.

Religious Education Volunteers

We are grateful to our 41 volunteers who are devoted to their weekly commitment as a Catechist or an Aide, and to the 5 additional volunteers who step in whenever a substitute Catechist or aide is needed. If you, or anyone you know is interested in assisting our program as a substitute Catechist, Classroom Aide or Office Aide, please contact our Religious Education Office at 262-626-2650. We sincerely thank our wonderful & dedicated volunteers.

New Sacramental Preparation Program This Year

We have 14 students who are beyond 2nd grade (3rd -9th grade) and would like to receive the necessary faith formation in preparation for First Holy Communion. One or both parents attend the Religious Education Classes with their children, so siblings are together with their parents in one of the two classes. This Family Catechesis has been an effective means of catechizing these students.

Retreat at Holy Hill

High School 9th and 10th graders attended the St. John Bosco Youth Day on Oct. 1st at Holy Hill. We are deeply grateful to the donor who kindly paid for our bus transportation to this inspiring retreat for our teens. We sincerely thank you.

Confirmation Program

Confirmation students and parents had an informational meeting following the 9:00 Mass at St. Michaels on Oct. 16th. The Confirmation candidates are discerning who they will ask to be their sponsor. We ask for our parishioners' prayers for these candidates as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on April 24, 2017.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Our 2nd Graders have begun preparations to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Jan. 18, 2017. We ask for parishioners' prayers as these students are learning about God's love and mercy. Thank you.

Sharing Our Time & Talent

Parishioners, please keep in mind that many of our High School Youth are available to help with raking and yard work, etc. Please call the Religious Education Office at 262-626-2650 to request the help of our students.

Learning About Religious Vocations

We have arranged for Mara Schumaker (St. Michael parishioner) to share her story in choosing a religious vocation with all our Grade School and High School students beginning with our High School youth this Wednesday, and ending with the Grade School children on Nov. 9th, during National Vocation Awareness Week.

We are also beginning our involvement with the Adopt a Seminarian Program (sponsored by the Human Concerns Committee). Our students will be writing notes to a seminarian and encouraging him on his discernment journey.

One of our 9th grade classes is privileged to have Larry Martin, who is studying to be a deacon, teach their class until Thanksgiving.

Kringle Sale

The Religious Education Program will once again sponsor a Kringle sale beginning Nov. 9th. We will be taking orders through Nov. 30th, so please watch for opportunities to order Kringles after Masses during the last 3 weekends of November. We thank you for supporting the Religious Education Program with your Kringle purchases. Funds raised from this sale will help to provide valuable resources to assist us in passing on our Catholic faith to our youth in Holy Trinity and St. Michael parishes.

Mrs. Mary Breuer

We sincerely thank Mrs. Mary Breuer for taking over our Religious Education Directorship. Mary has been a teacher here at HT School for many years. She is truly dedicated to our Kewaskum-area youth, as we continue to bring Christ's teachings of love & respect to all our Catholic youth.

Open House Updates

We had another 40-50 people tour our Parish Center & HT School last week. Our Advisory Board members, Joanne Geidel, Heidi Butler, Paul Sebo, & Pat Adelman were busy providing tours during our Open House. Mrs. Hefter did a Smart Board Demo. People realized this is a great interactive learning tool that we have in each classroom. Other comments included how clean & organized everything is in our school, and people saw lots of positive comments about Jesus, Respect, Love in each classroom. Also, a lot of comments about just how beautiful the Parish Center is. All the detail that went into it, the warm colors that were used and how welcome our facilities are.

Question: The Parish Offices seem small-No room for storage, etc.? **Answer:** Our Parish Offices are sized similarly to any business office. We are moving towards a paperless environment, so paper storage will be greatly reduced. This is what the Archdiocese is expecting. For instance, with our WE BELIEVE Campaign, we sent hundreds of pages of information electronically to the Archdiocese. They limited our paper submission to only 4 pieces of paper (Forms A-D), all with Father Ed's original signature.

Question: Is the kitchen up to par? **Answer:** We are still improving our kitchen processes. This will take more time to get our kitchen processes working properly for the many activities that it supports.

Question: Who made all the decisions regarding our Parish Center? **Answer:** Many people, including Father Ed, Pastoral Council, Finance Council, HT Building Committee, WE BELIEVE, our Architect, CD Smith, parish representatives, and many of our contractors. We are very pleased with our Parish Center.

“If we want to get to know Jesus, there is no better place than in the Gospels.”