

St. Patrick's Catholic Church

August 13, 2024

I pray that your summer was relaxing and rewarding and you had some time to just be at peace and enjoy your time with your children! As the summer is winding down, school beginning soon, such does faith formation. Let us be reminded of what King Solomon wrote in Psalm 127:2: "In vain you rise early and stay up late, toiling for food to eat—for he grants sleep to those he loves." So rest is important for all! Even Jesus himself is said to have rested in the bible many times.

- Matthew 8:23-26: After a long day of ministry, Jesus falls asleep in a boat during a violent storm while his disciples follow him. The storm threatens to capsize the boat with its rising tides and crashing waves, but Jesus continues to sleep.
- Matthew 14:13: Jesus withdraws to a secluded place by boat after hearing of John the Baptist's beheading.
- Mark 6:31-32: Jesus tells his disciples to come with him to a quiet place to rest after many people come and go, leaving them no time to eat. They go to a solitary place by boat.

Time for rest is coming to a close and this year our back to class brunch will be on Sunday, September 22, after 9:30 am Mass and is required for the parents to attend! This is being put on by our 2025 NCYC students and parents, so there will be a free will donation jar at the main entrance.

We have some important information on some upcoming changes that we will be implementing in the 2025/2026 year. Our church has been chosen as one of 10 to usher in the new Family Faith Formation program. It will be something that all parishes will be going to eventually, ours is just one of the 1st.

We will also have the calendars for the upcoming year. There may be times changes need to be made last minute due to situations out of our control. I will advise you of these changes via Flocknote. So, if you receive notification from FLOCKNOTE, it is not spam. Please make sure you check your spam folder and unmark it if you find it in there. We will also have updates located in the bulletin and on our St. Patrick's web page. I will TRY to make sure to post on Facebook, but do not rely on Facebook! Not all of our parishioners follow us there.

Your registration forms are enclosed with this letter. Please make sure your phone number and email address are correct as well as any food allergies or sensitivities your child may have. We provide snacks for the students and do not want to put anyone in jeopardy.

The price is the same as in the past: \$10 for one student, \$20 for two students, and \$25 for 3 or more students. Please keep in mind that 1st, 2nd, 9th and 10th grade students are required to attend a minimum of 80% of the classes in order to receive their Sacraments in 2nd and 10th grade. Both First Eucharist and Confirmation are a 2-year prep!

There will be surveys coming out to you via Flocknote and there will be QRL codes in the entrances of the church for you to access these and have your thoughts and opinions heard. It is crucial for your input to be included for the success of this program!

Two other important dates to keep in mind will be Sunday September 29, which is Priesthood Appreciation Sunday and Sunday October 13th is Deacon Appreciation Sunday. We will be having the kids sign cards for Deacon in class. We will not have class before the Priest appreciation, but I will have stations for the kids to make cards for Father at the back to class meeting. Please make sure to attend the breakfast we will be having for Father on the 29th and acknowledge him for all he does! He works so hard and has left much behind to tend to God's flock!

As always, if you have any suggestions, thoughts, questions or concerns please feel free to contact me! Thank you all and please have a restful remainder of your summer!

Sincerely,

Shannon Nye
Faith Formation Director