



ST. JOSEPH

Catholic Church

Office of Religious Education

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Dear Families,

Welcome to the St. Joseph Religious Education Program!

It is great to be back and preparing for another year in our religious education program (CCD). We hope you have all had an enjoyable and safe summer and look forward to growing in Christ with you and your family this year!

As you are well aware, communication will be vital throughout the year. Please check your email frequently as well as the parish website (stjosephpekin.org) and the parish bulletin regularly for announcements and information on the weekly classes, sacramental preparation and special events for your child.

Our mission in religious education is to collaborate with parents to form a new generation of Catholics who know and love Jesus Christ and live as his disciples in the community of the Catholic Church. Toward that end, we strive to offer a unified, solid and engaging religious education program.

While our children and youth will receive important formation in the parish religious education program, the Church strongly encouraged all parents to walk closely with their children as they grow in knowledge and practice of the catholic faith.

- "When they are given the dignity and role of fatherhood and motherhood, parents will eagerly carry out their duties of education, especially religious education, which devolves primarily on them." (Vatican II – Gaudium et Spes no. 48)
- The Christian family is the first place for education in prayer. (CCC #2694)
- "The parish... is called to be a fraternal and welcoming family where Christians become aware of being the people of God. ... It must however. Continue 'to be the prime mover and pre-eminent place for catechesis.'" (General Directory for Catechesis #257)

The First Day of CCD will be on September 5th at 6:30. Classes are location in the St. Joseph School, please enter through the door of the parking lot. There will be a short mandatory parent meeting in the Cafeteria of the School beginning at 6:30. The CCD Schedule for the 2018-2019 school year will be available as well as the updated handbook. Your Student is to attend this meeting with you and from there, Catechists will take you and your children up to their new classroom for a brief Parent Teacher introduction to their class. This will be followed by a normal class so the students are expected to stay until 7:30. Parents are not expected to stay the whole time.

We invite all our families to participate in our parish, and give the children a sense of belonging and community. We want to help form your children in the faith and prepare them to face the challenges of the world with a deeper knowledge & love of God, his Church and Jesus the Savior.

Thank you for letting God lead you in the ways of Catholic faith.

May this year be a time of grace & growth for all of us in St. Joseph CCD family.

God Bless,

Anna McMahan

Director of Religious Education (D.R.E.)