

Religious Education PREP Newsletter

Issue: October 2016

St. Mary Magdalen Church



IN THIS ISSUE

- Calendar
- Note from Karen Yasik
- Reconciliation Meeting



OCTOBER CALENDAR

October 2nd – regular classes for all students Pre-K through 8th; Confirmation classes; and RCIA begins for those who will be entering into full communion with the Catholic Church at next year's Easter Vigil.

October 4th – the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi – say a prayer for your pets today! Also – Baby Shower for Jesus in the CHURCH HALL for Ladies' Night!

October 5th – First Reconciliation meeting at 9:30AM and repeated at 7PM in the CHURCH HALL for all PARENTS whose children will be receiving this sacrament and First Communion this year – please bring Baptismal certificates! Sacramental preparation is separate from regular religious education and is done as a parish!

October 6th – 200th anniversary of the Cathedral of St. Peter, Bishop Malooly's seat in the diocese

October 9th – NO CLASSES COLUMBUS WEEKEND

October 16th – **FIRST FAMILY CATECHESIS PROGRAM ON MARY** – if you have signed up online, you will get an automatic email reminder the week before! We will begin together in the GYM at 10AM. If you have children in kindergarten or pre-K, they can attend their regular class and then the parent can leave to either bring them to the rest of the morning or take them home (if you think they're fried!) **CONFIRMATION CLASSES WILL RUN AS USUAL.**

October 23rd – regular classes for grades K-8, RCIA and Confirmation

October 30th – Regular classes grades Pre-K through 8th – **NO CONFIRMATION CLASS THIS WEEKEND**

November 1st – All Saints' Day – holy day of obligation

November 2nd – All Souls' Day



★ Bulletin

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www.smmchurch.org/sunday-bulletins

RECONCILIATION FOR 2ND GRADERS



Also in October we'll begin preparing for the sacrament of Reconciliation for our 2ND graders! Parents don't forget the opening gathering in the Church Hall, Wednesday

October 5th at 9:30AM and repeated at 7PM. You'll get dates for First Communion, as well as a workbook and information about the Reconciliation retreat on November 12th.



NOTE FROM DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

As we all know, families have changed a lot over the years! When the last Vatican Council occurred back in the early 1960's, the Church put a lot of emphasis on the family, and all that we learn as part of a family unit. It's the model for the parish; everything we do as parish connects to what we do as family. But do we always remember that?

If your children asked if they could skip school, what would you say? What would your boss say if you asked to skip work? The Mass is our meal as a parish family, so it should be just as important - and yet we skip Mass often! When other commitments get in the way of Mass attendance, there are subtle changes that happen in the family. Mass is a time to reflect on your actions and thoughts from the past week, and all of the things we do that pull us away from God. Just like all of the devices we use occasionally have to be "reset" to work better, we do too! Mass is a great way to close down all of the distracting "life apps" and recharge and reset yourself for a new week. It should be less of an obligation and more a meaningful ritual that draws us closer to God. Remember, children learn from YOU first about God – so make sure it's a good lesson!

October is the month of Mary's Rosary – so it's fitting that our first Family Catechesis should be about a member of the Holy Family, Mary! If you haven't signed up already, make sure you do soon – I've got materials to start making glow-in-the-dark decade rosaries, and we're going to learn more about Mary and her various appearances throughout history, especially at Fatima – 100 years ago this year! Remember that November 1st is All Saint's Day, so celebrate the saints in your life and those on the official list! Check our website and Facebook page for great ideas on how – we're always adding fun ideas for you!



Karen Yasik