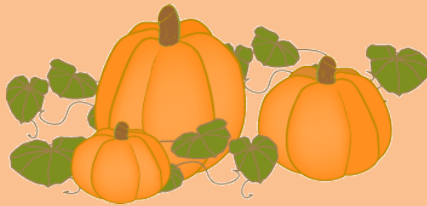


Parish Religious Education Program (PREP) Newsletter

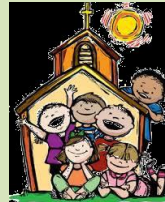
Issue: October 2017 St. Mary Magdalen Church



NOTE FROM OUR DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS ED

Yes, fall is at least officially here, but October isn't only a time for pumpkins, ghosts and candy! In our Catholic calendar, October is the month we devote to the rosary. The rosary is a prayer tool originally used by monks and priests to pray the psalms (there are 150 psalms.) It's believed that St. Dominic was given the rosary as part of an apparition of the Blessed Mother in 1214. What we know for sure is that the rosary is a great way to pray meditatively on the life of Jesus; the Joyful mysteries start with the Annunciation of Jesus's birth and end with his being found in the Temple; the Sorrowful mysteries begin with the Agony in the Garden and end with the Crucifixion; the Luminous mysteries, added by St. Pope John Paul II begin with Jesus' Baptism and end with the Eucharist; and the Glorious mysteries begin with his Resurrection and end with his crowning of his mom as Queen of Heaven. Each decade of the rosary is assigned to a different mystery, and since before the Luminous mysteries were added there were 15 mysteries, $15 \times 10 = 150!$ However you like to say them, it's a nice tradition to start saying just one decade a day during this month as a family. After all, St. Pio of Pietrelcina (better known as Padre Pio) who was canonized in 2002 (remember that means "added to the list") is known for saying, "The Rosary powerful weapon against evil." Couldn't we all use a little less evil in the world?

Our Jewish brothers are also celebrating Yom Kippur this Saturday – the Day of Atonement. Maybe a good day to go to the sacrament of Reconciliation, which has its roots in this practice?



IN THIS ISSUE:

- ~ Calendar – read carefully!
- ~ October Family Day
- ~ First Reconciliation Orientation

October Family Day

Sunday, October 8th, is our first family day for this year! If you haven't signed up yet, and would like to join us for our morning of service, you can still sign up for the day here:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0c49aea82aa0ff2-october>

Please remember that you are being asked to bring specific items to this event, and that the knitted items for the Seaman Center have to follow a specific knitting pattern (see the list <http://www.smmchurch.org/documents/2017/8/Seamen%20Center%20Service%20Project.pdf>) and that the 8th graders and their parents will be going to deliver the boxes for Sojourner's Place as soon as we are done assembling them!

First Reconciliation Parent Orientation

Parents of students who will be making their First Communion in May 2018 (which means their First Reconciliation this December) need to attend this orientation on Wednesday, October 4th, at either 9:30AM or 7PM in the church hall.

We will have registration forms available for the sacrament as well as information about the process and what is required for the sacraments.


NOTABLE CHURCH FEASTS THIS MONTH

October 2nd – Feast of the Guardian Angels

October 7th – Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary

October 13th – 6th apparition of Our Lady of Fatima, known as "the Miracle of the Sun"

Have you checked out the parish website lately?
It's user friendly on your phone, too!

 Bulletin

FOR THE LATEST BULLETIN:

www.smmchurch.org/sunday-bulletins

Sacraments

FOR SACRAMENT INFORMATION:

www.smmchurch.org/sacraments

Religious Ed.

FOR PREP INFORMATION:

<https://smmchurch.org/religious-ed>

GET INVOLVED!

Youth-led Family Masses take place the first Saturday of most months with a few exceptions (like Confirmation weekend November 4th)

Young people are invited to usher, cantor, and (if old enough and trained) be lectors and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion.

They also provide the music! If you are interested in becoming involved, contact our youth minister at smm youth@smmchurch.org for more details!

YOUTH AND FAMILY SOCIALS

Immediately following the youth-led Mass is a social in the Church Hall. The parish provides the entrée and we ask attendees to bring a side dish or dessert, or to make a monetary donation.

Help is always needed to set up/clean up, so if your student needs service hours it's always an opportunity!

OCTOBER CALENDAR

October 1st - regular classes all grades pre-k through 8th
AND CONFIRMATION CLASSES

October 4th – First Reconciliation Orientation for all parents of 2nd graders in the CHURCH HALL at 9:30AM and repeated at 7PM – workbooks will be handed out at this gathering – see block on page one

October 7th – youth and family mass at 5PM with a family Social in the hall after – see block this page for more Info

October 8th – Family Day of Service – signup required for Grades 1-8 and their parents – see block on page One – NO CONFIRMATION CLASS THIS WEEKEND

October 9th – Columbus Day – parish offices closed

October 15th - regular classes all grades pre-k through 8th
AND CONFIRMATION CLASSES

October 18th – Christian Formation Committee meeting
7PM in the Youth Ministry Room off the hall

October 22nd - CLASSES FOR GRADES K-8 AND
CONFIRMATION CLASSES

October 29th - regular classes all grades pre-k through 8th
AND CONFIRMATION CLASSES (LAST ONE)



Looking ahead:

November 1st – All Saints Day

November 2nd – All Souls Day (and Confirmation rehearsal 7-8:30PM)

November 4th – Confirmation 11AM

November 11th – First Reconciliation retreat 9-10:30AM in the church hall

November 12th – Family Day for grades 1-8 on Saints – 7th grade is required to attend!

No classes Thanksgiving weekend November 26th