Our Lady of Pompeii

Religious Education Program

2015-2016

Registration for the 2015-2016 Religious Education Program will begin shortly. If your child attended Religious Education classes at Our Lady of Pompeii during the 2014-2015 school year, you will be receiving registration forms in the mail. If you are registering for the first time, we ask that you call the Office of Religious Education (684-4664) and we will make arrangements to have the forms sent to your home.

Classes for grades Kindergarten through Tenth Grade will begin on **Sunday, September 13th, 2015**. All classes begin at 8:45 AM and are one hour in length.

There will be several changes in the program this year:

1. **First Penance and First Communion Preparation:**

Sacramental preparation for First Penance and First Communion will no longer be incorporated into the lessons taught in class. Instead, there will be Parent/Child sessions added to our schedule. There will be two morning sessions which First Penance candidates and their parent(s)/guardian will be required to attend. First Communion candidates and their parent(s)/guardian will be required to attend four morning sessions. The sessions, along with the Sunday morning classes are both required parts of the program. Free babysitting will be provided for families who have other children enrolled in the Sunday morning Religious Education program during the sessions.

2. **Optional Program for 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th Graders:**

A second option for Religious Education will be offered to certain grade levels this year. Our Lady of Pompeii’s Youth Minister, Liz Zahm will be offering an evening program for incoming 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th graders this year. Students will have their choice of attending the Sunday morning sessions, or the Sunday evening sessions which will be offered through a program called, “Edge”. In the 2016-2017 school year, a program for high school students called, “Life Teen” will be fully implemented. Please note, students must choose one program option for the entire year. Those in the Sunday morning classes will not receive credit for attending an evening class and those registered for the evening class will not receive credit for attending the morning session; though we certainly welcome students to attend classes whenever they are offered. The options for those in grades 6-9 are clearly stated on the registration form so that you may specify your choice. More information regarding dates and times of sessions will be available soon.

3. **Confirmation Classes**:

Tenth grade Confirmation candidates for spring of 2016 attending public high school, do not have an option this year, as they are part of a two-year program which began while they were in ninth grade. Their classes will still be held on Sunday mornings at 8:45 AM.

Please note: Confirmation candidates attending Catholic High Schools are exempt from the Sunday morning classes because Religion is incorporated in their school’s curriculum. However, Catholic High school Confirmation candidates must also complete a registration form to be included in the Confirmation program.

**Confirmation Retreat:**

All Confirmation candidates are required to attend a retreat held during the summer. This retreat will be offered by the parish. All fees for the retreat are included in the registration fee for Religious Education.

**Confirmation Meetings:**

All Confirmation candidates, in public and Catholic high schools are expected to attend seven Monday evening classes beginning in February. The first class needs to be attended by the Confirmation sponsors as well. The other six classes are for the candidates only. Please note these extra sessions and meetings.

**Community Service Hours:**

Confirmation students are responsible for 30 hours of community service by Monday, April 18th. It is strongly encouraged that at least 15 hours of the required community service be completed in the freshman year of high school. Students who are working on service hours as part of their high school requirements are not allowed to submit the same hours to both programs.

Information regarding service hours, sign-up sheets, and service hour forms are available in the Religious Education Office on Sunday mornings from 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM during class times. You may also call the Religious Education Office at 684-4664 at any time to see what service hours are available. Community service hours may also be served by altar serving. However, servers must be sure to sign in at each Mass they serve to insure the hour is counted.

Hours may also be obtained through working at the parish picnic, helping with fall clean up, Vacation Bible School, Children’s Liturgy during the 10:00 AM Mass, the spaghetti dinners, (both set up the day before and of course, the day of) sacramental Parent/Child sessions and retreats for First Penance and First Communion, and on the day of the actual sacrament are also options. Hours have also been served by stapling packets together for bingo, helping clean up/decorate the church for Christmas and Easter, (and clean up and packing it all away after the holiday seasons as well). Candidates who are in Catholic high schools also have the opportunity to gain service hours by assisting in the Religious Education Office on Sunday mornings from 8:30 AM until 10:00 AM.

Forms must be submitted to Mrs. Diane Liptak, either personally or by mail. Do not submit them to anyone else. Service hours are only counted if the form is completed, signed and submitted to Mrs. Liptak by March 21st.

Service projects must be pre-approved by Mrs. Liptak or Liz Zahm. Failing to obtain proper authorization would result in the project hours being rejected.

Service project hours completed for any other organizations (Catholic schools, National Honor Society, Scouts) **cannot** be used for Confirmation service hours. However, you may use service hours done for this Confirmation program for other organizations.

Each student is responsible for completing their own service hours and submitting the completed forms to Mrs. Liptak. It is not the responsibility of Mrs. Liptak, Liz Zahm, Mrs. Faatz or your parents.

**Confirmation Date:**

A date and time for Confirmation will not be available until late January 2016. Once the date is set, there will be an evening practice date and time scheduled which the candidates will also be expected to attend.

**The schedule for the 2015-2016 Religious Education Program is as follows:**

Sunday, September 13th – all classes in grades K-10 begin at 8:45 AM

Sunday, September 20th – Class

 Sunday, September 20th – First Communion Parent/Child Session #1 (8:45 AM – 11:15 AM)

Sunday, September 27th – Class

Sunday, October 4th – Class

Sunday, October 11th – NO Class

Sunday, October 18th – Class

 Sunday, October 18th – First Penance Parent/Child Session #1 (8:45 AM – 11:15 AM)

Sunday, October 25th – Class

Sunday, November 1st - Class

Sunday, November 8th – Class

Sunday, November 15th – Class

Sunday, November 22nd – Class

 Sunday, November 22nd – First Communion Parent/Child Session #2 (8:45 AM – 11:15 AM)

Sunday, November 29th – NO Class - Thanksgiving

Sunday, December 6th – Class

Sunday, December 13th – Class

Sunday, December 20th – Class

Sunday, December 27th – NO Class - Christmas

Sunday, January 3rd – NO Class – New Year

Sunday, January 10th – Class

 Sunday, January 17th – NO Class – Martin Luther King Jr

Sunday, January 24th – Class

 Sunday, January 31st – Class

Sunday, February 7th – Class

Sunday, February 14th – NO Class – Winter Break

Sunday, February 21st – NO Class – Winter Break

 Monday, February 22nd - Confirmation Class – Candidates and Sponsors (7:00 PM – 8:30 PM)

Sunday, February 28th – Class

 Sunday, February 28th – First Communion Parent/Child Session #3 (8:45 AM – 11:15 AM)

 Monday, February 29th – Confirmation Class – #2 - Candidates only (7:00 PM – 8:30 PM)

 Friday, March 4th – First Penance Retreat for children only (5:30 PM - 8:30 PM)

Sunday, March 6th – Class

 Sunday, March 6th – First Penance Parent/Child Session #2 (8:45 AM – 11:15 AM)

 Monday, March 7th – Confirmation Class - #3 - Candidates only (7:00 PM -8:30 PM)

 Saturday, March 12th – First Penance – 1:00 PM

Sunday, March 13th – Class

 Monday, March 14th – Confirmation Class #4 - Candidates only (7:00 PM – 8:30 PM)

Sunday, March 20th – NO Class – Palm Sunday

Sunday, March 27th – NO Class – Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 3rd – Class

 Monday, April 4th – Confirmation Class #5 – Candidates only (7:00 PM – 8:30 PM)

Sunday, April 10th – Class

 Sunday, April 10th – First Communion Parent/Child Session #4 (8:45 AM – 11:15 AM)

 Monday, April 11th – Confirmation Class #6 – Candidates only (7:00 PM – 8:30 PM)

Sunday, April 17th – Class

 Monday, April 18th – Confirmation Class #7 – Candidates only (7:00 PM – 8:30 PM)

 Friday, April 22nd – First Communion Retreat for children only (5:30 PM - 8:30 PM)

Sunday, April 24th – Class (last day of classes)

 Friday, April 29th – First Communion Practice (6:30 PM – 7:15 PM)

Saturday, April 30th – First Communion 11:00 AM

TBA - Confirmation Practice – Candidates only (date will be announced the last week of January, 2016)

TBA - Confirmation (date will be announced the last week of January, 2016)