

August 1, 2011

St. Mary's Church
Religious Education Office

Dear Parents and Guardians,

14833 Kutztown Rd., Kutztown, Pa., 1930

Change is in the air throughout the English speaking Roman Catholic Parishes around the world. On the 1st Sunday of Advent, Nov. 28, 2011, we will be using the 3rd edition of the Roman Missal with some changes in word, gesture, and posture.

To help you and your child/ren understand what is changing and why, St Mary's will be addressing the changes with the following learning opportunities:

- At Sunday Masses between October 15-November 20, Msgr. will speak during the homily about changes in wording at different parts of the Mass and the Cantor will introduce us to any changes in the sung responses.
- At 7pm on Monday October 24 Msgr. Scheaffer will lead a workshop open to all parishioners detailing changes to the Roman Missal in the Religious Education Center.
- In addition, our 1st parent Gathering Session will address these changes in the Roman Missal and how you can help your child/ren with the few changes in posture and gesture. The Gathering Sessions are listed on the yellow sheet, enclosed.
- In the fall, as Msgr. Scheaffer is speaking to parishioners about the changes, catechists will talk in classes with your child about any changes in word, posture, and gesture as is appropriate for each level.

AGAIN, WE HAVE A NUMBER OF CHANGES THIS YEAR, SO PLEASE TAKE A FEW MOMENTS TO READ THROUGH ALL OF THIS MAILING.

Class Schedule:

Track 1 Sundays (which always meets on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month in the Religious Education Center) *ADDNL. CLASS DATE INCLUDES: April 29, 2012

- Preschool through Level 5: 10:30am-12:15pm (*see enclosed roster for room assignments*)
- Level 9 through Level 12: 6:30-8pm

Track 2 Sundays (which always* meets on the 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month in the Religious Education Center) *ADDNL. CLASS DATES INCLUDE: Oct.30, & Jan 29, 2012

- Preschool through Level 5: 10:30am-12:15pm (*see enclosed roster for room assignments*)
- Level 6 through Level 8: 6:00-8pm, October through March **in add'n note changes in class schedule from Oct 9 to Oct 2*

❖ **Religious Ed. Center-Based Class Information:**

Preschool-Level 5: Refer to the enclosed class roster for registered Preschool-Level 5 children's class assignments. If your child's name is missing, please contact Ann Pirnot at (610) 683-6454 or stm_ann@verizon.net

On the first day of class, please bring your child to the classroom before 10:30am. Class begins promptly at 10:30am. The side door of the Religious Education Center closest to the Church will be

open after 9am mass for quick entry into the Center. (This door is locked during evening classes.) Then go to the lobby to pick up your child's syllabus and other materials.

Because of changes to the Roman Missal, each family should pick up a new Parent Guide to Prayer in the lobby. Families that are new to our program should pick up a Parent Guide to Safety.

Parents with last names beginning A-M proceed to Rm. 117 for a short Parent Meeting from 10:45-11:15am. Parents with names beginning N-Z should come to Rm. 117 from 11:30am-12noon. You may wait in the social hall and enjoy light refreshments while you wait for the end of the session.

EMAIL ADDRESSES: If you have email and have not given us your email address, take a moment to sign your name and email address in the lobby. We have found email a great way to stay in touch. Our wonderful parent newsletters will be sent to your email seven times a year. Email addresses will be kept confidential. If you prefer a paper copy, please sign up in the lobby.

At dismissal, for Pre-5 please be ready to pick up your child at the door of the classroom.

Catechists will open the doors when they are ready to dismiss. Please be respectful and quiet while waiting in the hallways, as classes may still be in session.

❖ **Junior High Ministry:** Please see enclosed orange sheet, especially notice the list of Traffic Control Parent Volunteer dates of assigned service.

❖ **Home-Based Program:** There will be a Sept. 14th orientation meeting especially for parents in the home-based program 7pm in the Religious Education Ctr. Plan to come to this meeting to plan the year, share on nurturing your child's faith and pick up the materials.

WEBSITE: Don't forget to bookmark our parish website and visit it often to keep up on parish and religious education activities: www.StMarysKutztown.com. Our Religious Education Calendar, track schedule, syllabus (Pre-5) and other important information for ALL levels will be there in case you misplace any of these papers.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PARENT HANDBOOK: Please read it, then sign and return the acknowledgment slip located on the last page. Keep the handbook in a place for easy reference.

REGISTRATION: If you have not returned your registration form, please fill it out and send it to St. Mary's Religious Education Center. Extra forms are available on the pamphlet table in the gathering space of the Church and on the parish website www.StMarysKutztown.com

*Our prayer for you and your family is that the rest of the summer be
a time of re-creation and re-newal.*

In Service to you,

St. Mary's Religious Education Staff

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