

St. Mark

*The Evangelist
Catholic Church*

The catechetical theme for this year:

“Matrimony: Sacrament of Enduring Love”

June 14, 2010

Dearest Friends in Christ,

Greetings to you and praise to our Lord, Jesus Christ! We hope this finds you and your families well and enjoying the summer. As always, we find we are already missing you!

Following last years efforts, most of our communications for the Religious Education Program will be made primarily via the St. Mark Internet web site and email in an attempt to continue the reduction of operating costs. We realize that not everyone is using the Internet everyday or has a computer at home; we apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you but we will provide the main church office with hard copies of this packet and any other information distributed via the web site. Our office will be closed until mid-August. However, you may contact us via our e-mail at any time. We will check our mail periodically throughout our break. If you need us immediately, please call the Church office at 954-434-3777 and they will contact us immediately.

After you have had an opportunity to read this letter please take time to go to the web site via <http://stmarknet.com> and access the following links from there. You will click **Enter “Church”** where you will find the Department of **Religious Education** among the list on the left hand side. From there you will find **“The Catechist Corner”**. That page is where you will always go to find any pertinent information concerning Catechists and Volunteers for religious education.

Examples of what you will find as the summer progresses:

Dates to Save Calendar for Catechists including:

Catechist Orientation, Catechist Workshop, Catechetical Sunday Commissioning Mass, Mandatory Fingerprinting and Virtus Dates, Start Up Date, Sacramental Catechist Meetings, etc.

Religious Education Calendar of Events (Tentative- Final approval in August)

Catechist Intent Form (PLEASE fill out and email one ASAP if you have not done so)

Catechist and Volunteer Placement Report including:

Class Time and Session Date, Catechists Teams, Volunteer Placement, etc.

Mandatory Fingerprinting Schedule and Registering Information

New Catechist are scheduled. Veteran Catechist need to check if they are up for renewal.

As well as many other links to exciting resources available on-line.

This is a work in progress; we will continue to add and improve the Religious Education web site as time goes by. A prayer of thanks to the Lord for Alberto Mollinea, our Web Site Master, without his help this wouldn't be possible. We value your insight and individual experiences, so we ask you to use the site frequently and share with us any thoughts or concerns that you may have regarding the program's strengths or weaknesses, or ideas to further improve the site.

Praise Be to God! Many of you are blessing us with your time and talents once again this coming year!

Thank you to those who returned your Catechist Intent Forms before the end of religious education classes. It was a tremendous help to us in our planning. I have placed all catechists and volunteers who did so. If you did not return your intent form, one is available on-line. Please complete the form and e-mail it back to us with your desired choice of day, time of session, grade level and partner preference. Be sure to check the *Catechist and Volunteer Placement Report* online to see what is available. This report is not finished, but it will give you a good idea of our needs.

We want to thank you for sharing your faith with the children of Saint Mark Religious Education Program. We thank God for your generous hearts as well as the love and support you show us every week. We understand the prayer and consideration that it takes to make such a demanding commitment. We are grateful to you and your families for the sacrifice of your time and energies.

Father Whyte has requested that all Catechists attend the 11:00 am mass on Catechetical Sunday, September 19 to receive commissioning for the coming year's mission. The theme for this year is, "Matrimony: Sacrament of Enduring Love" **Those who have been designated by the community to serve as catechists will be**

called forth to be commissioned for their ministry. Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect upon the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Catechetical Sunday is an opportunity for all to rededicate themselves to this mission as a community of faith. Please sit with your families and come forth as you are called. In conclusion, we look forward to hearing from you and seeing you at the Catechist Orientation.

Please take time and visit all the requested links to stay informed. This **is** your

“Summer Information Letter” you will not receive anything in the mail. Remember to

e-mail your **RSVP** at your earliest convenience and to mark your personal calendars with any important dates that pertain to you. Don’t forget to check this Web Site often as we will continue to update all the dates and information.

May God continue to bless you and your families with the peace that only He can give.

In His Service,

Susan W. Mikluscak

Director