



# St. Francis PRE

## New Year

I know I am not the only one that thinks this but summer went by really really fast.

I did take a couple vacations over the summer which was nice. But I thought I was going to get more items done at home and get more prepared for PRE this year.

Well here we are and hopefully all are prepared for this school year.

I would like to welcome the new families to PRE and all the existing families. It is always nice to see new faces and the kid's exciting face when they know they are coming somewhere new to be with their friends. I know the teachers will be excited to see you as well.

As you read this, I did find teachers to help this year with the program. I thank them for giving of their time and talent for the kids. I know people think you have to know your religion, and you don't, you just have to be open to show them the love Jesus has for them. If they have a question and you don't know it, they are ok when you say you will ask and let them know the next night.

Remember, you are the primary teachers of these students that we have each Wednesday night. We, the teachers, cannot teach these kids all they need to know about their religion. We need your help more than you will know. You are the teachers that show Jesus' presence, you are the ones that say prayers together, you are the ones that take them to mass each weekend. You are the ones that show your kids, you do have time for Jesus in your life when you find that one hour to attend Mass.

Attending Mass means just a much to you as does their sports event.

God shines through all of us as teachers.



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### Special points of interest:

- Ask your child some night what they learned.
- Take time to read this newsletter from front to back. There is a lot of information in here. Let the kids know what is going on as well.
- Are you the example of Christian faith you want your kids to look up to?

# MASS

With Fr. Stan and Fr. Matt being new to our parish, we are working on setting times for Mass. Please watch the newsletter as that is where I will be updating when we will be having something with either of the priests.

When we have Mass, all children are asked to wear church attire. No this is not dress pants, dresses, dress shirts or anything on that line. I just would like to see nice jeans with no holes in them and shirts that do not have any foul language on them. I **do not** want to see gym shorts or volleyball shorts on for church. We



need to remember that this is God's house and we need to be presenting ourselves in a nice manor. I know it is hard coming from football or volleyball practice, but with the yearly schedule on the next page, you can see when Masses are scheduled in advance so you should be able to prepare ahead of time for these nights. If your child comes in clothing that is not church worthy, I will be calling parents to bring a change of clothing.

Parents, grandparent, uncles and aunts and whoever else would like to attend Mass on Wednesday night are welcome to join us.

This Mass is for the PRE students but we love to invite the St. Francis Church community to this as well.

We are all one family and the kids enjoy seeing faces they know at events like this.

## Confirmation

Confirmation is scheduled for October 22, 2023 at 10 AM. This will be for this years 8th graders that started preparing last year. There is a mandatory retreat set for Sunday, September 10 at noon in Tarnov. There will be Confirmation practice on October 11 at 7 PM at Humphrey.

Reminder, Confirmation will be held with St. Mary's, Leigh students as well. If your sponsor can be there for practice that would be great, if not, one parent is required to be at the practice so the information that is discussed that night can be relayed.

We will be preparing 7th Graders this year to be Confirmed next year. I am looking at having a parent meeting but it will not be till after October 22.

One parent will need to be at the meeting. There will be reports that need to be completed at certain times of this preparation, there will hours that will have to be meet.

The hours are called the Faith Hours. Attire for the special day will be gone over. It is helpful so both parent and student know what is expected of them for the next year.

The date it self for Confirmation is not set yet but as soon as it is, I will get that out to all families so you can make plans accordingly.



*God is planting his  
Love in you, so let it  
shine.*

## 2023-2024 Yearly Schedule

Sept 6 - First night of class	Jan 1 – HAPPY NEW YEAR
Sept 10 - Confirmation retreat in Tarnov at Noon	Jan 3 – No Class
Sept 13 – Class	Jan 10 – Class
Sept 20 – Class	Jan 17 – Class
Sept 27 – Class	Jan 20 - First Reconciliation (time to be determined)
Oct 1 – Bazaar	Jan 24 – Class
Oct 4– Class	Jan 31 - Class
Oct 11 – Class	Feb 7 – Class/First Communion Parent meeting @ 7pm in Humphrey
Oct 18 – Class	Feb 14 – Ash Wednesday
Oct 22 - Confirmation	Feb 21 – Class
Oct 25 – Class	Feb 28 – Class
Nov 1 – Holy Day (mass)	March 6 – Class
Nov 8 – Class	March 13 – Class
Nov 15 – Class	March 20 – Class
Nov 22 – No Class	March 27 – Easter Break - No Class
HAPPY TURKEY DAY	March 31 – Easter
Nov 29 – Class/First Reconciliation Parent meeting @ 7pm in Humphrey	April 3 – Class
Dec 6 – Class/Confessions	April 10 – Class
Dec 13 – Class/Christmas Party	April 14 – First Communion
Dec 20 – Class	April 17 – Class
Dec 25 – Merry Christmas	April 24 – Class/Last night of class
Dec 27 – No Class	

## Prayers

As many of you are aware, I do ask that parents work with their children at home to learn their prayers. As time here at PRE only allows us limited time to cover everything we need to cover. Even some nights there is not enough time to get everything in. So I can only recommend that, as parents, that you help in doing your part when it comes to helping with their Catholic Faith. And if helping you child learn their prayers, I think that is an ok tasked to be asked of.

I believe everyone should know the prayers that are required for each grade. If you do not know the prayer I do have prayers on flip cards on a ring.

Here are my expectations. Go over the prayers that the child states they know. Refresh them on those. When we test out, we start with the very basic prayers, ex: Hail Mary, Our Father, Act of Contrition. And we move up the list. So if your child is in 2nd Grade we will review the prayers they were to know in Kind-1st Grade and then see which ones they know for 2nd Grade. If your child is in 7th Grade, we do the same thing, we start with the Kind-1st Grade prayers to refresh and move up the list to 2nd Grade prayer to 3rd-4th Grade prayers and so forth.

When it comes to a prayer they do not know, take a week or so to focus on just that one prayer till they can say it all by themselves. Don't try to have them learn 3 or 4 at the same time. That just does not work well.

My goal is to test out three times a year on prayers and I will send in the newsletter where they are at with learning the prayers they should know. If at any point, please don't hesitate to call me with any questions or concerns.

## Questions

If you have any questions with things that are going on at PRE, please reach out to me. I would like the information to come directly from me, as the teachers may not always know the answer to your question. In some cases the teacher has to reach out to me and then relay it back to you. This way there is not miscommunication between everyone. Even if you have a question on why the teacher is teaching this or that in class, reach out to me so I am aware of your concerns. I am not in each classroom so this would give me a chance to see what is being taught. Teachers each have a teacher guide book but sometimes topics get off track.

So again, questions, do hesitate to reach out to me.

## Contact Info

St Francis PRE

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Prayer is the simplest way to talk to Jesus. He is listening all the time.

Hopefully I will get one testing in before Christmas break, one shortly after break and one before the end of the year.

These prayers will help the students to be prepared for First Reconciliation/First Communion and Confirmation.

Here are the prayers each grade will need to know.

Kind-1st Grade:

Glory Be  
Our Father  
Hail Mary  
Guardian Angel

2nd Grade:

Act of Contrition  
10 Commandments  
7 Sacraments

3rd -4th Grade:

Meal Prayers  
Order of Mass  
Rosary/Mysteries  
Stations of the Cross  
Apostles Creed

5th-6th Grade:

Nicene Creed  
Holy Days of Obligation  
Hail Holy Queen

Confirmation:

They have the list