

# St. Francis PRE

Volume 19, Issue 2

## WELCOME BACK

I know I am not the only one that thinks this but that 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 and you are the ones that show your child how to live a life of a good Christian. 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 same night what they learned.
- Take time to read this newsletter from front to back, lots 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. Dan and Fr. Stan being busy, we worked with Fr. Dan on times for him to meet all of the PRE programs. We will be having Mass once every five weeks.

When we have Mass, all children are asked to wear church clothes. 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, basketball 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, grandparents, uncles and aunts and whoever else would like to attend Mass on Wednesday night are welcome to. 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 March 23, 2025, at 2 PM. This will be for this years 8th graders that started preparing last year. There is a mandatory retreat but that date and time has not been set yet. As soon as it is, I will pass that date along. Update, Confirmation will be held in Humphrey only this year.

We will be preparing 7th graders this year to be Confirmed next year.

As discussed at the parent meeting, Mass reports need to

be completed each week, there are hours that will have to be meet. The hours are called the Faith Hours. Highly recommend starting on them now as next September creeps up fast and it is hard to catch up in only a couple of weeks.

Sponsors can be 16 years of age, have to be Confirmed themselves, have to be in good standing with their parish, and can be a family member or close family friend but just cannot be a parent.



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

## 2024-2025 Yearly Schedule

Sept 4 - First night of class

Sept 11 — Class

Sept 18 — Class

Sept 25 — Mass

Oct 2 — Class

Oct 6 — Bazaar

Oct 9 — Class

Oct 16 — Class

Oct 23 — Class

Oct 30 — Mass

Nov 6 — Class

Nov 13 — Class

Nov 20 — Class

Nov 27 — No Class HAPPY TURKEY DAY

Dec 4 — Class

Dec 11 — Confessions

Dec 20 — Class/Christmas Party

Dec 25 — MERRY CHRISTMAS NO CLASS

Jan 1 — HAPPY NEW YEAR NO CLASS

Jan 8 — Class

Jan 15 — Class

Jan 22 — Class

Jan 29 — Mass

Feb 5 — Class

Feb 12— Class

Feb 19 — Class

Feb 26 - Class

March 5 — Ash Wednesday—Mass

March 12 — Confessions

March 19 — Class

March 23 — Confirmation 2pm @ Humphrey

March 26 — Class

April 2 — Class

April 9 — Class

April 16 — Class

April 20 — Easter

April 23 — Mass

April 24 — Class/Last night of class

May 4 — First Communion

# 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 Grande 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 3 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.



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

# Contact Info

St Francis PRE

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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

# 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.