

# September Newsletter

## ***Welcome Back***

Due to hurricane Harvey we have delayed our start until Wednesday, September 13. This will shift back some of our scheduled events and we will be sending out updates once plans are finalized. As you know the Cathedral itself suffered water damage and will need a new roof so for now Mass is being celebrated in the gym during our regular Mass times of Sat. 5:30 p.m. Sundays at 7:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. , 11:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. There has been no set date for return to the Cathedral for Mass.

## ***Confirmation Retreat***

Our Confirmation Retreat for all 10<sup>th</sup> grade students who plan to be confirmed spring 2018, will be held this Sunday ( 17) from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Doors open at 1:00 p.m. in the cafeteria and will end with Mass ( 6:00 p.m. Mass) . Families are encouraged to join us for the closing Mass. Candidates MUST attend this retreat in order to meet the requirements for Confirmation. The sponsor is encouraged to attend; if unable a parent or other adult may take their place. Handbooks and paperwork will be handed out during this retreat. **Dress is casual but church appropriate.** Questions please call 575-8132.

## ***Parish Center Dedication and Open House***

Sunday September 17 the parish will dedicate and have an open house of the new Cathedral Center. This beautiful new building is the result of countless hours of work and dedication and is to be used by the whole parish. You are invited to attend an Open House and Ministry Fair after each of the weekend Masses at 5:30 p.m. Saturday or Sunday 7:30 , 9:00 and 11:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. There will be a dedication by the Bishop at 4:30 p.m. on Sunday. Please join us in celebrating this latest addition to the OLV Parish Campus.

## ***Parking and Traffic Flow***

There are 3 pick-up and drop off zones for ccd. Please use this guideline when dropping off and picking up your students. We will have parents working to help make this a smooth process so please volunteer to help if you can. ( Call the R.E. office at 575-8132)

For children in the Early Childhood Center – Please use the back parking lot off of Mesquite Street. Notice traffic enters in the middle lane and moves to the left or right. Children in Early Childhood MUST to be picked up at the door - So please park while getting your child.

Units 1 and 2 students please pick them up in the front parking lot off of Laurent Street. These Children will be dismissed from class to come to you or you may meet them at the door. Units 3 and 4 and all other classrooms please use the back parking lot by the new Parish Center, you may also park but please don't stop in the traffic area. We appreciate your support. The safety of all children and adults are always a concern so please be careful.

## ***Emails and Contact Number***

If you have new contact numbers or emails please call us and let us know. Newsletters are always posted on line and emailed home, so please check that we don't end up in your spam folder. It is especially important that we have a good working phone number for you and also emergency contacts. If a child is ill or needs you we want to be able to reach you without delay. If you move please give us your news address, returned mail results in the rectory dropping membership so please help us keep up to date.

## ***Class Times***

All classes start promptly at 6:15 p.m. It is very important that students are in the classrooms ready to begin their class when the 6:15 p.m. bell rings. That bell means class will start, not start walking to your class. We remind the kids so please make sure they are here on time. Class is dismissed by the TEACHER not the bell at 7:30 p.m. Sometimes a class is completing an assignment or saying their closing prayer, so students are requirement to wait for the TEACHER to dismiss them. Absences are counted as well as being tardy. So please make every effort to be here. If your child is ill or there is a family emergency please call so we can mark it excused. If sports practices become an issue please contact the office. We will be glad to work with VISD administration so students are dismissed by 5:45 p.m. for religious activities.

## ***Safe Environment***

Every adult working with young people must be S.E.compliant. This includes a TDL background check and attendance of a Safe Environment class. Our goal is to make sure all of our adults are aware of and know how to help in a case of suspected abuse. Students will also have a session in the classroom on dangers like strangers, bullying or sexual abuse. Parents will be given a schedule of those classes and can opt out or attend with their child. If you would like to volunteer please ask us how! We always need subs, hallway monitors and aides! 575-8132 - **VOLUNTEER BE INVOLVED!**

## ***Parish Festival***

The parish festival is still being planned **for Sunday, October 8**. Currently the community center where it is normally held is being repaired due to hurricane damage and if not ready in time we will have a "Plan B". This year especially with all the damage to the buildings and our opening of the Cathedral center everyone is asked to help! Buying raffle tickets (they were mailed home and we will have more in the office) volunteering to help, attending the Festival to play and eat and of course donating to or buying from the Auction is very important. We really need to come together as a parish family and make this a huge success!

***As always. . . Our Lady of Victory Pray for Us!***