

# 2017 PARENT MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

## OUR CATECHISTS:

<b>Kindergarten</b>	Denise Smith and Ann Niesz	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	Diane Brown and Jennifer McCartin
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Grade</b>	Yvette Baggs and Riayn Baggs	<b>6<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	Kevin Dey and Todd Parramore
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Grade</b>	Angie Taylor and (TBD)*	<b>7<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	Jack Kirby (and student aides)
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Grade</b>	Beverly Antonio and [Julie Blanchard]*	<b>8<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	Charlie Baggs (and student aides)
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	Erin Holthaus and Jackie Kline		

\* We are still in need of additional catechists and classroom aides – please let me know if you are interested!

### COMING UP:

**September 24 – Fire Drill**

**September 29 – Family Potluck  
& Movie Night, 6 – 9 pm**  
“We Bought a Zoo”

**October 1 – Blessing of the  
Animals, 11:10 am**  
Corbaley Yard.

**October 8 – Youth Mass, 9:15a**

### Make-up Work –

The following steps must be completed to receive credit: 1) your child must bring the appropriate chapter from his/her workbook home to be completed. 2) With your guidance and assistance where appropriate, your child should complete ALL exercises in the chapter, including the Chapter Review. A parent must review and initial each exercise and the Chapter Review. 3) Completed chapter work must then be turned in by a parent to Mary Wood.

*Make-up work is strongly encouraged but not required unless attendance falls below 70%.*

## THE NEW CURRICULUM:

This year we are using “Allelu” for Kindergarten, and the “Alive in Christ” series for Grades 1 – 8, published by Our Sunday Visitor. It is a spiral curriculum addressing the 7 topic areas of the Catechism of the Catholic Church: Revelation, Trinity, Jesus Christ, The Church, Morality, Sacraments, and Kingdom of God. Each grade will explore these topic areas, diving deeper each year according to their appropriate development levels.

**Family + Faith page** - Each week, in **Grades 1 through 6**, your children should bring home with them the Family + Faith page from the end of the chapter they are studying. On it is a brief outline for you of *what* they learned, a section which explains *how* they understood the information based on their developmental level, and some thoughts on how this learning can apply to your everyday lives. After you have taken a few moments to review these items, you are encouraged then to use the “Let’s Talk” section to invite your children to share their understanding of the material. They are specifically designed to be open-ended questions to encourage your children to think about what they learned and communicate with you how it applies to their lives. There is also a “Let’s Pray” suggestion that usually involves a saint that your child learned about in class.

**Setting the Family Table** – **Kindergarteners** will bring home a “placemat” to continue their learning throughout the week. On one side is the lesson that they did in class. On the other side is a placemat that they can use when they sit down for meals with you during the week with information for you to encourage them to incorporate and practice what they have learned.

**Seasons of Family and Faith** – **Parents of Grades 7 and 8** are invited to pick up the **Seasons** publication (Vol. 1A for parents of 7<sup>th</sup> graders and Vol. 1B for parents of 8<sup>th</sup> graders). This is a publication from Loyola Press *for parents* with analysis, discussion, and suggestions for furthering your relationship with your 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grader and for helping them to understand why their faith is important and crucial to their decision-making as they approach and enter adolescence. It is an excellent resource for you, and I’m really excited to be able to offer it to you!

**Form A** – If we already have a Form A (Annual Consent and Release) on file for your child, then all you need do is verify the information, make any necessary changes, and sign and date the form. If we do not have one on file, then one must be filled out. This is a REQUIRED form for your child to attend classes here. **The deadline to either review and sign last year’s form or submit a new one is October 15.**

**Dismissal** – If you want to have your child leave with another adult, I need to have your written authorization to do so on file. Ms. Carolyn has a binder with the authorizations at her table in Corbaley Hall – please see her to fill one out.

**Both Sides of the Street** – In order to continue fostering a sense of the *important connection between their encounter with Christ in Church (the east side of Homewood Ave.) and their encounter with Christ through Faith Formation (the west side)*, we will continue our tradition of inviting our young people to sit with their class on designated Sundays. **Parents, please note:** while your children may sit with their class on such Sundays, or may be participating in a particular way at Mass on Youth Mass Sundays, they are nevertheless under your supervision, so your presence there is essential.

New to our program this year, we are introducing the Mobile Confessional! On designated Sundays, Fr. Clem will come to Corbaley Hall during classes and set up a confessional in the Library/Staff Room (next to my office) and celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation with students. Grades 3 – 8 will choose their Sundays to participate. Participation will be strictly voluntary, but strongly encouraged – our goal is to help our young people learn, understand, and experience the wonder of this sacrament of healing!

### FAMILY ACTIVITY NIGHTS AND FAMILY POTLUCK & MOVIE NIGHTS

#### Family Activity Nights:

October 27  
November 30 (Advent Wreaths)  
March 8

#### Family Potluck & Movie Nights

September 29  
“We Bought a Zoo”  
February 2  
“Groundhog Day”

In the past, we have done Family Activity Nights. Then, to switch it up, we tried Family Movie Nights. This year we are going to do both! Our first one is at the end of September – we’ll start with dinner and movie! Please plan to come and join the fun!

### YOUTH MASSES

October 8	January 14	March 11
November 12	February 11	April 15
December 10		

Last year saw the beginning of a great new tradition here at OMOS: the monthly Youth Mass at 9:15 on designated Sundays. We successfully accomplished our goal of complete involvement by our young people – lectors, ushers, greeters, etc. Cathy Emory, our music director, is presently practicing with our new Youth Band who will provide the musical accompaniment this year (young people and parents who are **interested in participating in the band should contact Cathy Emory at: [mosmusic@verizon.net](mailto:mosmusic@verizon.net)** or 410-758-0143, ext. 6). I repeatedly heard positive feedback from the members of our Parish regarding how great it was to see young people involved at Mass. Sign-ups for participation in the Youth Masses will be handed out in class. Please encourage your children to sign up to participate – the Mass will come alive in a new way for them!

## WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?

The **Confirmation Class** will be sponsoring a themed Lunch in October, November, February and March to raise funds for their Pilgrimage in Wilmington, as well as the supplies for the Easter Egg Hunt during Lent. A lunch will consist of the theme food, a bag of chips, a dessert, and a drink for \$5. Lunch will be served in the main hall as children are dismissed from their classes at 11:25.

**Pre-orders** will be taken in class the week prior to the scheduled lunch.

October 29 – Pizza Lunch

November 19 – Taco Lunch

February 11 – Lasagna Lunch

March 18 – Meatball Sub Lunch

Thank you for supporting the Confirmation Class!

## ALSO ON THE CALENDAR:

### ADVENT 2017

**December 3 – Blessing of the Advent Wreaths** –Families are invited to bring their Advent Wreaths to Corbaley Hall on December 3, set them up on the tables which will be available, and then participate in a brief ceremony where Fr. Clem will bless all of them. This will be open to all parishioners.

**December 10 – Cookie Bake** – Our young people are invited to join in this annual tradition of rolling, cutting out, decorating, and baking Christmas cookies to be included in the Christmas Baskets that are distributed to families in need in our community. Lunch is provided immediately following religious ed. classes, and then the baking begins! Parent volunteers are needed for a variety of work stations.

**December 17 – Advent Celebration** – Classes will gather at 11 am to enjoy the Advent Play to be performed by our 7<sup>th</sup> Grade.

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**March 11 – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Stations of the Cross**, *Extended class – 10:15 – 12:15.*

**March 17 – Easter Eggstravaganza!** This has been so much fun for the past two years! The Confirmation Class will sponsor the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Easter Eggstravaganza at Corbaley Hall beginning at 10 am. There will be games, fun activities, and a giant Easter Egg Hunt! Children through 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to participate.

[www.sorrowparish.org](http://www.sorrowparish.org)

Visit the parish website to find up to date special announcements, the parish and religious ed. calendar, photos of activities at OMOS, and much more!