

## Parish Council Religious Education Report

April 2017

March was a very busy month for Religious Education.

On Saturday March 25<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am-2:00pm, the Level 8 Confirmation class and I visited the National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel for their Mandatory Retreat. The children were blessed by Father Justin as he placed Our Mother Mary's Scapular around their necks. They then had reconciliation, and also had the pleasure of listening to Sister Ann give them a synopsis of what their path should be to follow. The kids loved her! I'm looking into having her come here to speak with them again.

Family Catechesis was held on Saturday March 25<sup>th</sup>, from 2:30-5:00pm the families took a field trip over to the church where a history of the life of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha was given. We then proceeded over to the parish center where the families made "stained Glass pictures of nature; Gods Creations. They also made and decorated crosses which are what Kateris' devotion was. I also had a movie station playing the story of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha; for those who had finished their projects early. Each child was given a blessed Saint Kateri medal, story book and coloring book on this saint. All who attended had a fun time.

The March Youth Mass was cancelled due to the inclement weather. Our next Youth Mass will be held on Sunday May 14<sup>th</sup>, Mother's Day with the Crowning of Mary by Level 2.

On Monday March 27<sup>th</sup>, I held a quarterly Catechist meeting. A review of information deemed necessary for the rest of the year, and upcoming events.

On Tuesday March 28<sup>th</sup> I held a Seder Meal/ Last Supper for the Level 3 First Holy Communion Class. They are preparing for First Holy Communion on Sunday May 7<sup>th</sup> at the 9:30 mass. That evening I also had invited Father Anthony to come and pay a visit to the Level 6 class, he brought along Father Tri, they visited all the classes, participated in questions and answers with the Level 6 class and then participated in the Level 3 Communion class with the Last Supper/ Passover Meal. It was a wonderful for the children as well as catechist Elena DiMartino and I.

The Bake-less Sale that was held on Saturday & Sunday April 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>, was successful. We raised \$140.00 for the Propagation of the Faith. This mission helps underprivileged children learn about Jesus Christ.

On Saturday April 1<sup>st</sup> from 9:00am-5:00pm, the Theology of the Body Retreat was held for Level 8. Brother Marlon and Catechist Carissa Wengenroth, and I directed this venture. The children got a lot out of the program. We also went across to the church for a veneration of the Eucharist. It was a great experience for all.

On Tuesday April 4th, Religious Education held Reconciliation for the children and families. Thank you to Father Paul, Father Anthony, and Father Gus for taking time out to come and be with us.

I also held a Seder Meal/ Last Supper for the Level 8 Class on Tuesday April 4<sup>th</sup>.

I have handed out to the Level 2, their letters regarding the Crowning of Mary.

I have received another payment from one family for \$225.00 for the 2016/2017 registration. I have one family left to collect from.

I have received re-registrations from 7 families thus far and have collected \$ 425.00 for the 2017/2018 year.

I have handed out Bible Camp Registration Forms and have received back thus far from 4 families.

There are No Religious Education Classes for Tuesday April 11<sup>th</sup> due to Spring Break.

I have our Fire Drill set with the Bloomingburg Fire Company for April 18th.

I have all my reports in to the Regional Office.

I will be holding Observations of the Catechists, On Tuesday April 25th. This is a responsibility that needs to be done each year as required by the Archdioceses.

On Saturday April 29<sup>th</sup>, I will be taking my last Basic Leadership Training Class. I have completed 3 of the 5 Level Two Catechists Courses online. I have two left and I will be Level Two certified.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Herschel, CRE