

Religious Education Dept.

Sept. 2016

Religious Education Held BIBLE CAMP June 27- July 1 2016 the Theme was Camping in God's Creation. We had a total of 25 children attend. I incorporated the 7th Graders into camp counselors and I had Mildred Pitt, Vitoria LaRusso and Lynn Cawley as the Catechists teaching the program. I also invited Tyler Odell to play his Guitar with music that themed the week. The Children all had a wonderful time. I asked Beth to post pictures of the Bible Camp on our website, and I created a collage of posters that we displayed in the church as well as Summerfest and at the Ice Cream Social on Our Lady of the Assumption Feats Day Celebration.

Tuesday September 13th was our first Religious Education Class held from 6:30- 8:00. We also had Parent Orientation that evening. I am happy to report that we have increased our total of children and families attending Religious Education. We have 26 Families with 40 Children participating. I well over exceeded my percentage increase as I projected for the Making All Things New Report. My increase was to be 9 percent which calculates to an increase of 3 children. However we increased to 7 children for the 2016/2017 school year.

Of those 7 children 4 of them are taking extra classes with me and Theresa Osborne . This was recommended by Sister Kevin John when I called and asked for assistance. I worked with the 4 of them over the summer and Theresa will be helping me thru the fall, possibly the whole year. We meet with them after mass on Sunday. They also attend the Tuesday evening sessions.

We changed our Book Company to Our Sunday Visitor. The representative came and met with me and took about 2 1/2 hours with me to explain the resources they provide. We have access to their online programs for the children and catechists and for me as well. The good news is the catechist's books would cost bus \$ 64.00 each; however she was able to give them to our program for FREE!! We saved almost \$400.00.

I have looked into a program and have purchased it for the level 8 class. It is called Theology of the Body. This program was recommended at one of the Basic Leadership Classes that I attended for Coordinator this past year. We will be incorporating this program probably sometime in January.

We will be having our Safe environment Program this coming week. We are making it again as last year a popcorn night. Parents are welcome to attend the movie as well.

Our Fire Drill is set up with the Bloomingburg Fire Company for Tuesday October 4th at 6:45 pm.

We held Catechetical Sunday this past Sunday the 18th at the 9:30 Mass which was also our first Youth Mass. Father and the Parish Blessed the Catechists and AIDES. I am happy to report that I have a catechist for each level and at least one to two Aides for each class to help this year.

I have several catechists working on their Level 1 trainings. I have completed my Level 1 training. I am registered for my last 3 Basic Leadership training classes, and am researching Level 2 Classes now that we are in full swing.

Our Youth Masses will be including Bake Sales throughout the Year; we will donate the money raised to various charities in need.

I have so far collected thus far \$ 2,725.00. That calculates into 20 of the 26 Families registered. 500.00 of that has been donated to help pay for 4 families in need of assistance.

The Balance to collect is 6 Families which totals \$ 1,125.00.

Gift Shop purchase of \$ 4.00 was made.

Sister Kevin John has asked each coordinator to sell raffle tickets. It is to defray the costs of the catechist's courses as well as the forum which is held on October 29th in Monroe and the Bronx. The first Prize is \$ 500.00; the second prize is \$ 100.00. Anyone interested in purchasing them, they \$ 1.00 each or 6 for \$ 5.00. I asked Beth to put a blurb in the bulletin after the 50/50 Raffle is completed.

As I was cleaning out another closet in the kitchen, I stumbled upon various items to be sold in the Gift Shop. I have asked permission from Father Paul if we could sell these items after masses. He is in agreement. I will be getting this underway as soon as I can get volunteers to help sell these items after the masses.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Herschel, CRE