

Religious Education Dept.

April 2016

Faith Food AND Fun was held on Saturday April 16<sup>th</sup> from 2:30-5:00pm. The children and parents learned about Saint Bernadette whose feast day was honored on that day, along with them watching a short movie on her life. We made Rosaries since Bernadette was the saint to say the Rosary with Mary at Lourdes in France. I had 17 children plus their parents as well as a family who comes to our church with her two children whom are not a part of the religious education program attend on Saturday. I have decided to give the 16 students who did not attend the program a take home work assignment.

Father Justin was asked by me to host a mini-retreat for the Level 7 Class as they begin their journey toward Confirmation. The children were quite excited to be participating in this venture. The result was that they had a great time.

Saturday April 16<sup>th</sup> was also YOUTH MASS at 5:30p.m., along with the level 7 class hosting yet another Bake Sale. The Proceeds will benefit the Warming Station in Middletown. The profit from the Bake Sale was \$ 100.00. They did a great job and I am pleased with their growth over the past year.

First Holy Communion will be held on Sunday May 1<sup>st</sup> at the 10:30 Mass. The children will be participating by bringing the Gifts to the alter. The parents and communicant will be receiving as a family at mass. Practice will be held on Tuesday the 19<sup>th</sup>. I have also planned for this Tuesday to give the children a re-enactment of the last supper. This will enable them to understand the meaning of the Eucharist and wine as the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ.

On Sunday May 8<sup>th</sup> (Mother's Day) at the 8:30 Mass the Level 2 Class will be Crowning Mary. This will also be Religious Educations last YOUTH MASS for the year.

I have sent out a Survey to the parents in Religious Education regarding Bible Camp this summer, so far I have gotten a positive response. I made the decision with the catechists at our last meeting that we will offer this program free to the religious education families who participate.

On MARCH 28<sup>TH</sup> I held my quarterly catechist meeting. Much discussion was on changing our now book company. I have been in contact with a few companies and have already discussed one company and am awaiting for other materials to arrive before our next meeting which will be held on Monday May 16<sup>th</sup> at which time I hope to resolve this issue.

We held our second fire drill on Tuesday April 5<sup>th</sup> with the Bloomingburg fire company. I sent a thank you letter to them for their time. This is part of our safe environment requirement.

I have taken in a few more payments. I now have 4 families with balances. Total income as of April 2016 is: \$3430.00. Balance left to collect is: \$ 285.00.

On April 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. Sister Kevin John Shields will be coming to Religious Education for her Bi-Annual Visit. I have all records in order and ready for her review. She will also be reviewing the catechists on their level of teaching as well that night.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Herschel, CRE