

Our Lady of Sorrows
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May 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians;

WE NEED YOU! The end of the Religious Education program is upon us. It is time to register for the upcoming school year. **I suggest you register early to avoid the late registration fee date of July 1st. As a tentative plan we are accepting only 20 per grade/per day to ensure we have enough catechists. We order our supplies in the summer according to our registration numbers and it makes it easier for your child(ren) to be included in that number. We NEED CATECHISTS FOR GRADES 1-3 because I cannot teach more than one class at a time! It is possible that there will be alternate teaching arrangements if there are not enough volunteers for Grades 1-3. The number of volunteers for this ministry is at an all-time low and it is not fair for those who volunteer to not receive help from the other parents when they ask for it especially for snack.**

Attached you will find the Registration Form for the 2016-2017 Religious Education Program. I call your attention to the participation side of this form. I encourage you to find some way to participate; the recommended guideline is one hour per child. **Please consider volunteering to teach in our program as a catechist. We have a shortage of catechists and will not be able to offer all grades both days. You will find it a very rewarding experience and you will receive a reduced tuition.** Please consider Team Teaching; this is when 2 catechists share one class and is a very popular alternative but we need more volunteers to accommodate the scheduling. **If there are not enough catechists certain grades will not be offered as planned. Please note that Grade 7 & 8 is being offered only on Monday evenings.** This program is carried out by parents and guardians, and without a sufficient number of participants, it is more difficult for those who do volunteer. Please remember these volunteers pass on our faith to *all of our* child(ren), not just their own. It is your responsibility to pass on the faith to the children through the religious education programs or through a catholic school education.

Please make sure to keep your **email address updated with our office.** Many of our catechists like to keep in touch with the parents via emails. A prompt return of your registration allows the program to be administered in the most efficient way. If you do not register by **July 1st** please note that there is a significant late registration fee applied to the tuition. Our registration forms will be available online @ olschurch.com to in case you cannot open the attachment. This year we will be accepting credit cards for your convenience.

I thank you in advance for your prayerful consideration in how you will give your time to the faith development of your child(ren) in this program, as well as your prompt return of this form.

Sincerely,

Joan Csedrik-Director of Religious Education