

# St. Mary's Parish School of Religion (SOR)

November 15, 2017

Dear Parents:

This is our last class before Thanksgiving, so this is a letter of reminders.

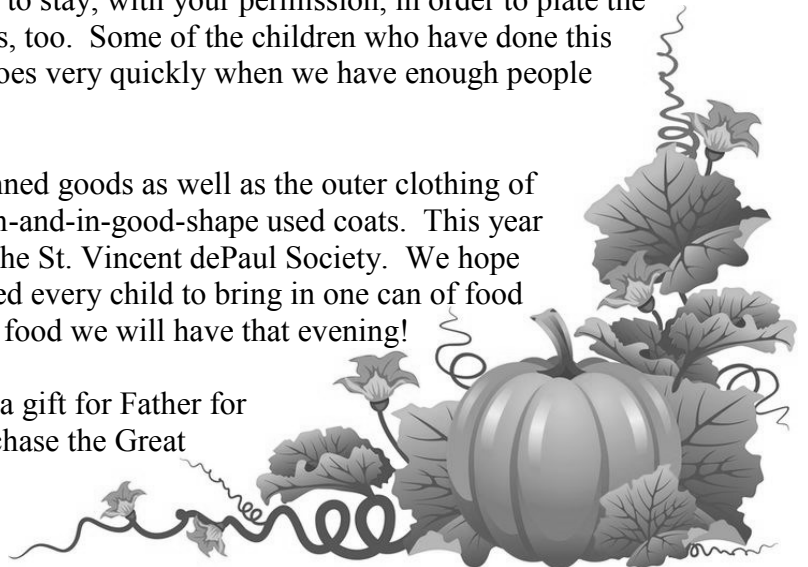
Tonight, the fifth grade will have Altar Server training. Altar Server training is a perfect fit with the fifth grade with its greater emphasis on Liturgy, Liturgical Year, and Sacraments. I am sure you have noticed that this date is different from the date originally given in the schedule. The date had to be moved because November 29 was needed for the Parish Penance Service.

A schedule form will be mailed to the fifth grade students when the form is mailed to all the other liturgical ministers. The form explains that this first form must be returned before someone can be scheduled to serve. If your child chooses to serve, they will receive a schedule form every three months. In the future, if you choose not to return a form, it simply means that there are no changes in address, phone number, Mass preference, etc., and the server is available for any time to be scheduled. Some people prefer not to return the form because they consider themselves always available. So, if a server wishes to discontinue serving, then a form must be returned stating that. I do make telephone calls for holydays and other special occasions; however, I do not automatically schedule anyone for holydays--even when they fall on the weekends like Christmas this year and Easter every year. If you do receive a call about a holyday or another special occasion and I leave a message, please call me back, even if you cannot help this time. I really do appreciate the return call, so I know that I need to continue to make more calls to fill the positions.

The Christmas Cookie Sale for Catholic Charities USA is coming up on the weekend of December 2-3. The proceeds from the Cookie Sale benefit people in this country, and we will earmark the amount to be used for disaster relief. There has certainly been a need for disaster relief from different parts of the country this year. Would you, please, make four dozen cookies (the average batch). The November 29 class is the time to bring in the cookies for the Cookie Sale. After class, students are asked to stay, with your permission, in order to plate the cookies. Parents are invited to help with this, too. Some of the children who have done this before, have this down to a science; and it goes very quickly when we have enough people helping.

We are still collecting boxed and canned goods as well as the outer clothing of socks, hats, mittens/gloves, and new or clean-and-in-good-shape used coats. This year we added a monetary gift, which will go to the St. Vincent dePaul Society. We hope your family can contribute. I have challenged every child to bring in one can of food for November 29. Think how many cans of food we will have that evening!

We are also collecting donations for a gift for Father for Christmas. I have made the decision to purchase the Great



Courses DVD series on Classic Russian Literature. Since I had no other ideas, I made that decision myself. However, I really wanted a gift that the children would choose. Tonight the children will choose something made in Russia to go with the DVD series: a Christmas ornament, a set of nesting dolls, a triptych or a small icon.

At the bottom of this letter, you will find a form to sign-up for the Christmas Eve Children's Mass for Kindergarten through Grade 6 in the SOR and School. The Mass does take some time to prepare, so please return the form by Wednesday, December 6. I know that December 6 is a couple of weeks away; and I recognize how easy it would be to misplace this form, especially since there is no class next week.. So please feel free to call me at 419-238-3079.

Thank you and have a blessed Thanksgiving.

Yours in Christ,

Cheryl L. Freewalt  
CRE

### Christmas Eve Children's Mass

Please return to the Catechist or Religious Education Office no later than December 6.

All children in SOR grades 1-6 are invited to participate in the Christmas Eve Children's Mass at 6:00 PM. Practice will be held in the church on Wednesday evening, December 20, from 6:45 to approximately 8:00 PM. It is important that those, who participate in the Christmas Eve Mass, also attend the practice.

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, our children will participate in the Christmas Eve Mass

\_\_\_\_\_ No, our children will not be able to participate in the Christmas Eve Mass.

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's signature \_\_\_\_\_