



Saint Patrick

ROMAN CATHOLIC
CHURCH

Rev. Michael Swierz
Pastor

July 23, 2018

Dear Parents,

Soon school bells will be ringing and our children will be returning to the classroom. So too, our School of Religion will open its doors to receive the youngsters entrusted to our catechetical or religious formation.

As parents you have the awesome responsibility of teaching your child many things in life which prepare them for a lifetime of joys and even sorrows which will come their way. If you remember when your child was baptized, you accepted the responsibility of training him/her in the practice of the Catholic faith. You promised before Almighty God to bring them up to keep God's commandments by loving and knowing God and loving our neighbor. (Catechism of the Catholic Church, #2223-2226).

As your pastor, and with a staff that is dedicated in helping you in your role as parent and our role as church, we have restructured our whole Religious Education program.

Formally, Sunday School was called CCD, Confraternity of Christian Doctrine. Who knew what it meant? Now, we are calling our Sunday School classes P.S.R. – Parish School of Religion.

As a parent, you catechize or teach your children our faith in what you say or do. If you pray, they will pray. If you love and forgive, they will follow your example. By providing a structured new presentation of the basics of Scripture and the Teachings and Traditions of the Catholic faith, we hope to support you in sharing your faith. We are never too old to learn something new! When you ask your children, "What did you learn today at P.S.R.?", they will or should have a lot to tell you. We will work with you but please support us as well. When your child sees or experiences your faith, it will support what they are learning here at St. Patrick's, and like those lessons you teach your children, the lessons we will experience together will become meaningful as your children prepare to be the Church of tomorrow.

Please carefully read the informational sheets prepared by Mrs. Karen Bartos, our Director of Religious Education. The systematic presentation of the faith in a parish community setting necessitates certain policies, rules and guidelines to ensure a smooth and fair program operation. St. Patrick Parish policies and guidelines are stated within this packet and reflect the spirit of the Diocese of Youngstown's guidelines for religious education.

As we celebrate this 150th anniversary year, let us have the same enthusiasm and joy of those who brought the faith to Hubbard 150 years ago. They never thought the cornerstone they laid would still be alive and well 150 years later. We have the opportunity to continue building upon that cornerstone of faith so that our children will pass on the gift of faith to their children and to the next generations of children. May God bless all of us as we learn, pray and celebrate Eucharist together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rev. Michael Swierz".