



August 2020

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR**

Dear RE Families,

We are excited to welcome you back to another year of faith formation. As you know, registration is up and running for the 2020-2021 year. With the Covid-19 health and safety guidelines, we will have smaller class sizes to accommodate social distancing guidelines, so please register your child as soon as possible to ensure that he or she is placed in your family's first-choice session time. Classes will begin virtually and will remain virtual throughout the month of October. Our hope is to transition to in-person instruction in the school building at the start of November.

Since we are beginning the year virtually, we will have designated pick-up times for materials, including workbooks and folders. Please register as soon as possible so that you are able to make the first pick-up time. This will allow the children to begin learning the material on our first virtual class on October 4. At this time, we anticipate gathering all of the RE children and catechists in one large Zoom meeting for a brief opening prayer and then sending them into "breakout rooms" that correspond to their particular classroom. We will be utilizing all of the safety features that Zoom now offers to ensure that our students are safe and our meetings are secure.

As we continue to work on our reopening plan with the diocese, we will continue to update our health and safety plan in accordance with local and state policy. At this time, we anticipate that face masks, temperature checks, and hand sanitization will be required once we are able to reenter the school building. We will ensure that students maintain social distancing in both the classrooms and hallways.

This year certainly brings unique challenges, but I am confident that we can all rise to the occasion and provide meaningful and creative opportunities for faith formation with our students, whether virtually or in-person. We all look forward to working with the students as they grow closer to Christ during this upcoming year!

Sincerely in Christ,

Sydney Schneider, Director of Children's Religious Education, Grades 1-6