

Weekly Letter from our DRE

August 13, 2020

Remote Religious Education: Fall 2020 (Sept. thru Dec.)

Greetings to the OLPH Religious Education Families!

As I recently communicated, all students will begin with remote religious education classes this school year beginning on Mon., Sept 28. Classes will be offered through three (3) different remote religious education models. No in-person class sessions will take place this Fall 2020 due to the pandemic and according to the Archdiocesan reopening guidelines for Religious Education programs. OLPH Religious Education Calendar will be provided next week.

Clarifying Three Models of Remote Religious Education Programming at OLPH

Because of the current environment, we are offering three (3) Models of Remote Religious Education Programming. All catechists and students will be provided with hard copy books and e-books for each Model. We will stick with the same curriculum for Grades 1-8: *Loyola Press Finding God* for Grades 1-6, and *Ascension Press – Chosen* for Grades 7 and 8. Backpacks, etc. will be picked up by families at Parking Lot Meet and Greets at dates and times determined in September. Families with kindergarteners and preschoolers will be provided with materials to utilize at home. I am researching different Family Catechesis Programs as Gather and Grow is not entirely digital; we need 100 percent digital educational programming during the pandemic.

1) **Catechist Led-Student Classroom Model** – Classes are led by the Catechist for the students connected via a Zoom virtual meeting place. Classes will be held on the days of the week and times set forth on the registration form: Mondays at 4:30pm; Tuesdays at 4:30pm and 6:30pm; Wednesdays at 4:30pm and Saturdays at 9:00am. No Sunday morning sessions will be offered for this Model.

2) **Parents Teach Own Children at Home Model** – Classes are led by parents to teach their own children at home according to the same weekly lessons as the Catechist Led-Student Classroom Model. Each student will be on the same lesson each week whether student is learning via Zoom with Catechist or remote learning at home with parents.

3) **Family Catechesis Model** – Classes are led by Catechists for families connected via a Zoom virtual meeting place. Families join to form one small virtual faith community class this Fall. There will be no Friday evening Family Catechesis classes this school year, only two Sunday morning classes per month.

Thank you for registering your children for Religious Education at OLPH. Since I recently

arrived, registration remains open for one more week at the following link: Religious Education Registration 2020_21

Thank you also for your patience as I acclimate to the parish and learn the ropes! I look forward to meeting each one of you. Let us continue to pray for an end to the pandemic and its effects. Our Lady of Perpetual Help, pray for us!

Margaret Waldron

DRE, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish

mwaldron@olphglenview.org

847-998-5289