

## **Weekly Letter from our DRE**

August 6, 2020

Greetings to the OLPH RE Families and Catechists!

Happy Feast of the Transfiguration!

My name is Margaret Waldron, and I am delighted to say that I am the new Director of Religious Education at OLPH Parish. I arrived a week ago last Monday, July 27 to a very kind and generous welcome from Fr. Jerry and the parish staff. This is my first email to RE families and catechists. My practice has been to provide weekly email letters to RE families and catechists with happenings in the RE Program and what to expect in the days and weeks ahead. I will continue to do this for you.

At this time, I am still getting acclimated to the parish and learning the software, workflow systems, and all the other ropes that I need to direct the RE program. Please spread the word that registration is still open, and if any parents have questions about our RE Program to please contact me directly: 847-998-5289 or [mwaldron@olphglenview.org](mailto:mwaldron@olphglenview.org)

### **Religious Education Registration**

Thank you for registering your children for Religious Education at OLPH. Registration remains open at the following link: [Religious Education Registration 2020\\_21](#)

Tuition and Sacramental Fee Payment link  
here: <https://www.givecentral.org/location/552/event/18769>

### **E-learning led by Catechists for All Grades PK-8 this Fall 2020**

Please know that this Fall 2020 all grades will initially begin with e-learning religious education classes led by our catechists through December 2020. While continuing to navigate the pandemic along with the Archdiocese's guidance, we will optimistically plan for a modified in-person model later in the academic year if possible. I have identified and am considering various religious education e-learning platforms and meeting rooms, and exploring enhanced communication tools for us. Please know that the OLPH RE program will continue virtually as long as we have internet access and also will continue if Illinois is sheltered in place again.

Registration for PreK and Kindergarten is low and if that continues to be the response, I will address with these families.

OLPH Religious Education Classes will begin the week of Sunday, September 27: Mondays 4:30pm to 6:00pm, Tuesdays 4:30pm to 6:00pm and 6:30pm to 8:00pm, Wednesdays 4:30pm to 6:00pm and Saturdays 9:00am to

10:30am. (Class-Catechist assignments will be distributed in the upcoming weeks and I am paying attention to days and times requested by families.)

For those families, who requested homeschooling, a distinction will be defined next week in my letter between actual Religious Education and Formation homeschooling model led by parents and the E-learning model led by Catechists.

### **Gather and Grow- Family Catechesis - Faith Formation**

A Family Catechesis- Faith Formation program will continue this year, but I am still thinking through digitally and gathering and researching information re the Gather and Grow program. I will be reaching out to families, who have participated in Gather and Grow in the past and have registered online for this year. If any Gather and Grow families are willing to reach out to me and explain how the program worked or did not work last year, I would appreciate it. [mwaldron@olphglenview.org](mailto:mwaldron@olphglenview.org) or 847-998-5289.

### **RE Calendar 2020-2021 and Class Schedules – Sacramental Preparation**

I will have a preliminary RE Program calendar for families during the week of August 17 with class times and dates and dates required for sacramental preparation and events for First Communion, First Reconciliation and Confirmation.

If any of your children are “behind” on receiving any Sacraments, including baptism, please contact me. 7 years old and in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade is set age for First Reconciliation and First Communion preparation and 8<sup>th</sup> grade is set for Confirmation preparation at OLPH.

I am still gathering information about what has taken place in the past overall in the RE Program and what will work now in this new environment that we find ourselves in. These times call for innovation, flexibility and patience for all; no doubt. Please know that I am tracking the current registration list and will determine classes sizes, catechist assignment, etc. over the next couple weeks and keep you posted.

### **Communication Tools for RE Program**

#### **Parish Website, Weekly Emails from Director, Church Bulletin and Church E-Blasts, Parking Lot – Meet and Greets and Parking Lot RE Material Pick-up, Zoom Meeting Office Hours**

I hope to soon post and organize information on the RE page of parish website for easy informational access for parents and catechists. I intend to utilize the RE webpage as a main communication tool for us as well as my weekly e-mailed letters to you, the parish bulletin, and parish e-blasts. You may also call or email with questions or concerns. [mwaldron@olphglenview.org](mailto:mwaldron@olphglenview.org) or 847-998-5289.

We will offer parking lot RE meet and greets for me to meet the children, families, and catechists in August and September and also parking lot days for pick up for RE materials, books, backpacks, etc. Stay tuned for set dates.

Next week, I will begin to offer zoom office hours, for anyone who would like to meet with me using that communication tool. Please email me if you are interested to schedule an appointment via a zoom meeting. I will use zoom meetings for catechist meetings to stay tuned.

## **Schedule of Tuition and Fees 2020-2021**

***Registration Deadline is Friday, August 7, 2020.***

### **Tuition and Fees -Children and Family Rates**

One (1) Child \$325.00

Two (2) Children \$425.00

Three (3) or more children \$525.00

Gather and Grow – Family Catechesis \$525.00

Sacramental fee – per child: Applies to all children preparing to receive First Communion and Reconciliation and Confirmation \$75.00

### **NEW Parishioner Registration and update your family's information**

Please register your family as parishioners if you have not already done so. Benefits are priceless and eternal!

You may also update your family's contact information here.

Please contact me if you have any questions about parishioner registration.

Link for New Parishioner Registration:

<https://www.olphglenview.org/register-or-update-registration>

Click on drop down link that states: "Become a registered parishioner." Or "Update my information"

Additional fee for families not registered as OLPH parishioners \$100.00

### **Registration deadline:**

Late fee after Registration closes \$75.00.

Please call Margaret Waldron if you are registering after August 7, 2020: 847-998-5289

Payment must accompany registration in order to be accepted.

We also accept hard copy checks. Please mail to the RE Office:

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, Religious Education Office, 1775 Grove Street, Glenview, IL 60025

Let us continue to pray for an end to the pandemic and its effects and for all those who are sick and their caregivers, and who have died from it, and for those who grieve and mourn.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, pray for us!

**Margaret Waldron**

Director of Religious Education, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish