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# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

# DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

## Upcoming Events

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**December 10th, 2018:**

Religious Education Board Meeting. 7:00 pm in the RE Center. Join us!

**December 11th, 2018:**

Last Tuesday session before Christmas. "Spirit of Christmas" in all classes.

**December 14th, 2018:**

Gather & Grow: A Family Catechesis Program meets

**December 15th, 2018:**

Last Saturday session before Christmas. "Spirit of Christmas" in all classes.

**December 15th, 2018:**

Blessed Sacrament Youth Center for those that have previously signed up.

**December 15th, 2018:**

Pageant Practice in Playdium  
Noon - 1:30

**December 15th, 2018:**

Merry & Bright: A Family Christmas Celebration in McDonnell Hall  
2:30 - 4:30

**December 22nd, 2018:**

Pageant Practice in Playdium  
Noon - 2:00

**December 24th, 2018:**

Christmas Eve Mass & Pageant in Playdium @ 3:00

## Safety Information

Sadly, all buildings are not monitored during RE sessions. It is important that they are. As a parents, we all want our children to be safe no matter what their surroundings are. The safety precautions the RE program has in place relies on you - the parents, to assist. It can't be done with out you. Join the RE program and help keep all children safe. Hall monitors and parking lot monitors play an important role in the Religious Education Program. The presence of the monitors before, during and after class time ensure that we are doing all we can to keep the children safe while they are attending RE. If you have volunteered to help in the hallways or the parking lot, please be sure to fulfill that obligation. If you haven't volunteered, please consider doing so. The only way the RE Program works is if parents are invested in it - won't you help out?

Please review the drop off and pick up procedures with your child's catechist. PK-2nd grade must be picked up by a trusted adult or older sibling, unless other arrangements have been made for your children. While the playground is a popular gathering spot, please know that there is no adult supervision in this area and children play at their own risk.

## REaching Out - The Spirit of Christmas: A Day of Giving

It is in giving that we receive. During all RE classes the week of December 10th, the children will be making Christmas decorations for the Ministers of Care to deliver to the homebound during the Christmas season. These simple decorations brighten the season for many that are homebound and are without families.

## OLPH WEBSITE

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Please refer to the RE portion of the OLPH website for all dates and times of RE sessions, events and liturgical celebrations. You will also find many other resources that may answer questions about the RE program. [www.olphglenview.org](http://www.olphglenview.org)

## THANK YOU!

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Looking ahead, we will also be looking for Christmas goodies for the Family Christmas Event in December.

## CLASS TIMES

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Tuesday afternoon classes begin at 4:30 and end at 6:00.

Tuesday evening classes begin at 6:30 and end at 8:00.

Saturday classes begin at 9:00 and end at 10:30.

Please be sure to arrive on time and to pick up on time. Thank you!

## HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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We will return to Religious Education on January 8th for Tuesday sessions, January 11th for Gather & Grow and January 12th for Saturday Sessions.

## The Spirit of Christmas (continued)

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The Religious Education Program would like to continue helping Sister Paulanne with the many families that reach out to her for assistance all year long. We will be collecting gift cards for Sister to distribute during the Christmas season to those in need in our community. Please consider a Target card, Walmart card or Jewel card in any denomination. On behalf of Sister Paulanne, thank you in advance for your generosity.

## Merry & Bright: A Family Christmas Celebration!

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Join the RE community on Saturday, December 15th for an afternoon of fellowship, treats, crafts and Santa Claus! Make and take cherished Christmas ornaments and enjoy the Christmas festivities! We will be in McDonnell Hall from 2:30 to 4:30 so stop by anytime. RSVP and let us know today your family will be there!

## 2nd Grade

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God Bless our 2nd graders who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the very first time! What a special evening for the children and their families who received this beautiful sacrament of healing. SAVE THE DATE: Looking ahead, there will be a parent meeting for children preparing for First Communion on January 23rd, 2019.

## 8th Grade

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Thank you to Karen Hitzeman for volunteering in the December Mass! Our January mass that we will celebrate as a group will be on January 13th at 6:00 hosted by Cara Lanscioni's class. Weekly mass is expected of all families as well as gathering as a Confirmation community during the 6:00 pm once a month. Please make it a priority.

The mandatory Confirmation Retreat will be held on Friday, January 25th. We will begin at 4:30 with a pizza dinner followed immediately at 5:00 with the agenda in McDonnell Hall. The retreat portion of the evening will continue with Mass in Church beginning at 8:00 pm. Parents and families are encouraged to join their confirmation candidate for mass.