

Sts. Peter & Paul – St. Ursula
Religious Education Program
129 Birch St. Fleetwood, NY 10552 religioused@stspeterpaulandstursula.org

May 2016

Dear Parent/Guardian:

We are ready to begin re-registration for the 2016-2017 Religious Education Program. The Fall program will start on Sunday September 18th with an opening Family Mass at 9:30AM – immediately followed at 10:30AM by our first session in the Auditorium for all parents and children!

The last few years have blessed us with an ever increasing enrollment and more parents helping out with hospitality, choir and child/adult faith formation; so it is clear that our Program is growing in a number of ways! This past year we have been blessed with the presence of many great people from St Ursula's - as our two parishes merged to become one. Our dedicated volunteer staff of Catechists and Student Aides have enjoyed communicating the faith to your children!

As you know the Archdiocese has been working on a plan called "Making All Things New". Most of the first part of this plan has been implemented – the merging of parishes. The next stage of this process is prompting the following questions from the Archdiocese: how are we communicating the faith to your children? Are families participating regularly in parish life, if so what is attracting them? After many conversations with Religious Educators all over this country, Pastors, other growing Parishes and of course many of you, Fr John and I would like to introduce some new initiatives into our Religious Education Program – so we can make it an even better experience for both you and your child.

Beginning this Fall we want to further enhance our growing program by offering you the opportunity to journey together alongside the Catechetical staff as your family moves towards the reception of a Sacrament. This will require that all of us be on the same page. Our first initiative will look like this: All the parents of children who have yet to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and/or First Communion will participate in an engaging four part video/discussion series that will provide all of us with an upgrade in our Biblical Understanding of the Mass. This series will start on the opening day, September 18th.

This program promises to help all of us reconnect with the Mass (the most profound prayer we have) so that our awareness of the beauty, goodness and truth of our faith can continue to grow! This upgrade will support you in communicating more fully the importance of the Mass for nourishing your child's spiritual life!

Since our Parishes have merged, the Archdiocese wants to know exactly who is enrolled in the new Parish Community. To facilitate this, all families (old and new) in the Religious Education Program are asked to meet with Fr. John at a time that is convenient for both of you. May the Lord continue to bless you and your family!

TUITION & FEES WILL REMAIN THE SAME AS LAST YEAR- Payable in full at time of registration. Thank you!

TUITION	\$175.00 (one child)	\$225.00 (2 children)	\$275.00 (3 + children)
SACRAMENTAL FEES (add to tuition fee)	Reconciliation/First Holy Communion:	\$60.00	
	Confirmation:	\$150.00	- Includes cost of the Confirmation retreat, Graduation gown and commemorative DVD, course materials.

TUITION IS PAYABLE IN FULL UPON REGISTRATION

Registration and payment is **due by June 19, 2016**. Any registration received after this date will include a **\$50.00 late payment fee** and will be subject to availability. **Please make checks payable to Sts. Peter & Paul – St. Ursula.**

TO BE COMPLETED BY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STAFF:

Date _____ Received from _____ Amount _____ Check # _____
 Cash _____ Received by Staff Member _____

Tuition fees are used for salaries, subscriptions to periodicals, the purchase of books and pamphlets, classroom and craft supplies, postage and copier expenses etc. The balance of the Religious Education expenses not covered by tuition is subsidized by the Parish and through various fundraisers.

New students must submit a Baptismal Certificate, even if baptized at Sts. Peter & Paul or at St. Ursula. Please give serious consideration to volunteering as a catechist or catechist aide, or volunteer to help us with food preparation or special events. If you are interested in passing on the faith to the children of the Parish, would like to help in one of the classrooms, or if you would like to sit in on one of the classes to determine if this is for you, please call or email Tony MacDonnell at 914-471-2084 or email ReligiousEd@stspeterpaulandstursula.org to further explore sharing your gift of faith. Training is available to anyone who is interested.

To help us communicate better with all participants, please include your email address on the registration form. Thank you for registering your child at Sts. Peter and Paul – St. Ursula! Please feel free to contact Tony if you have any questions or need any assistance.

We realize your family is busy; however there are two things that will help your child realize how much you value God. The first is weekly Mass attendance: supernatural food for the soul and community life! Second if your child misses more than four classes we will need to figure out a make-up strategy with the teacher. We are here to help your family to grow in your faith; so let's work together to make this a great year for your child!

Sincerely,
 Mr. Tony MacDonnell
 Director of Religious Education

Fr. John F. Lauri
 Pastor