

St. Catherine of Genoa

340 South Stott Street
Genoa, Illinois 60135

Alaisa Kingston Emmens
Director of Religious Education

(815) 784-2355
(815) 784-2045 (Fax)
alaisa340@atcyber.net

June 23, 2010

Dear Parents:

I hope you are enjoying your summer so far! It is once again time to start preparing for Religious Education! If you have a child who is entering Kindergarten, your child is also ready to enter Religious Education! Our program encompasses all grades from Kindergarten thru Confirmation (10th or 11th Grade).

The first day of class for Religious Education is Labor Day weekend, Sunday, September 5th at 9:00 a.m. You will notice from the enclosed Calendar, we have changed the schedule this year to go back to having the last Sunday of the month off of Religious Education. The last Sunday of each month will be reserved for parish events such as coffee & rolls Sunday, parish breakfasts, fundraisers and the like.

New this year, we will have "Parent Orientation & Annual Meeting" on Thursday, August 26th at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. At Parent Orientation, you will have the opportunity to meet the Religious Education teachers and aides, review our curriculum materials, and get detailed parent information and "Opt-Out" forms for the Diocesan Chastity and Safe Environment Program. You will have the opportunity to ask questions and you will get a copy of our "Religious Education Parent Handbook." The Parent Handbook is filled with useful information including parents' role in the education and catechesis of their children, the rules and regulations of our R.E. program, emergency and weather related procedures, and the new classroom and teacher assignments for each grade. Also included is information regarding our Sacrament Preparation Course for students who are in 3rd Grade or older and have not yet received their Sacraments of Reconciliation and/or First Holy Communion.

Enclosed you will find the Registration Form for Religious Education, the Parental Pledge and the R.E. Calendar for 2010-2011. Please fill out the Registration Form completely and return it to me with a signed copy of the Parental Pledge and the registration fee before August 1st, 2010. Please note that there is an additional fee for the Sacrament Preparation classes, to help cover costs of additional materials and their retreats. Therefore, if you have a child entering 2nd Grade or a 10th or 11th Grade student in Confirmation, please add \$30.00 to the total registration fee.

Although we have had to raise our registration fees slightly, our fees still remain significantly lower than the other programs in our Deanery and throughout the Diocese. If you are unable to pay the entire registration fee at this time, we can arrange for a payment plan to fit your needs. There are also financial scholarships available for those in severe need. I will never turn a student away due to inability to pay the registration fee, so please give me a call if we need to work out a payment plan!

Don't forget that our VBS will be held the week of July 26th through July 30th from 9:30 to 12:30 each day! This year we are exploring SonRock Kids Camp, where kids build their lives on the Rock: Jesus! I am looking for volunteers, young & old alike, to help with VBS! Give me a call or an email if you would like to be part of our team! Stop by the Religious Education Office bulletin board or visit our website, www.st-catherine-gehoa.org, for the VBS Registration Form!

Meanwhile, I hope you and your family have a wonderful summer! I will see you at "Parent Orientation" on August 26th! If you should have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call or email me at any time.

Yours in Christ,

Alaisa Kingston Emmens
Director of Religious Education

/ake
Enclosures

"As Christian disciples we are entrusted with the mission of a renewal of faith through evangelization, catechesis, stewardship and outreach to our diverse community."