

Dear Parents,

It is a great honour to be asked to assist you as parents to prepare your children for the Sacraments of Confession and Communion.

I will try to make all classes meaningful and engaging for your children so that your job as parents will be a little bit easier.

Should your child have to miss the occasional class, it is my hope to prepare a weekly sheet for every child to take home and this may be used by parents to cover material from a missed class.

This study sheet will include the simple, weekly catechism questions that we have discussed in more depth in the class. These questions and answers from the St. Joseph's First Communion Catechism must be memorized each week and over the year in order to be answered orally. I will be sure to go over these questions and answers frequently throughout the year and if reinforced similarly at home, I do not believe any child will have trouble. Grandmas and Grandpas, if living nearby, should be considered a great resource for helping your child memorize these almost sing-song questions and answers that they will remember from their own youth. These questions and answers are the fundamentals of the faith and though they benefit from embellishment, explanations and example, once your child masters this basic knowledge they will be prepared to receive the Sacraments.

The study sheet will also include the pages of the catechism that we have read, any prayers that we are learning (these will hopefully be learned over some time), books on the lives of the saints that we have read (which will be available for you to borrow and read to your child should they miss class), as well as any material needed for the next week's quiz (these quizzes will be quite simple, but each quiz will need to be made up if missed).

It is my hope that these sheets combined with a copy of the catechism at home, will help parents to follow along with what their children are studying and to help them with missed work. And though it is written for children, I know that reading and discussing the catechism with my daughter has really helped *me* to understand the faith. Jesus said that "unless you become like little children, you will not enter the Kingdom of God". I would think that all of us will be learning, then, through these dear children, as they grow in knowledge of their loving God.

Please contact me at any time with anything you might need. As I said, I am here to help you to prepare your child and if at any time you feel that you or your child needs some assistance I will be here for you.

Sincerely,

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