

*Dear Parents,*

2/25/09

We now begin the wonderful season of **Lent**. During this season, we pray and listen as God speaks in our hearts. We fast to remind ourselves that we should hunger most for God's love. We take this time to turn away from our selfishness by sharing and sacrifices. Lent is a time to grow closer to God and to those around us and prepares us for the joy of **Easter**.

It is important for all of us to take the time to prepare ourselves and our families for **Lent**. Help your family brainstorm ideas that might help them to think of God, prayer and the church in ways they might not have thought of before. Here are some ideas ...

**Prepare for Easter by doing:**

Read the bible, pray more, say the rosary, watch films on saints or other inspirational films, be kinder to family members, help people in the neighborhood, work at a more positive attitude, etc.

**Prepare by not doing:**

Limit or give up candy or desserts, limit TV or computer time, limit video games and violent shows, etc.

**Upcoming events for your Calendar:**

- **Confirmation Session #5** will be on SUNDAY, MARCH 1<sup>ST</sup> from 5:30 -9pm. Class session from 5:30-7: 30pm followed by driving together to attend mass at UMD from 8-9pm. *Be prepared to be tested on you memorization along with your homework for the month. Bring your Confirmation folder and your bibles to class.*
- Religious Education Classes will resume on WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4<sup>TH</sup> & **Children's Choir Practice**.
- **Sacramental Parent Meetings** will be held in conjunction with the LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS ON WEDNESDAYS MARCH 4<sup>TH</sup>, 11<sup>TH</sup>, AND 18<sup>TH</sup>. **ALL PARENTS WITH STUDENTS IN THE 1<sup>ST</sup> RECONCILIATION/ COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION PROGRAMS MUST ATTEND**. Soup Suppers begin at 5:15pm and talks begin at 6pm in the church.
- SATURDAY, MARCH 7<sup>TH</sup> ...1<sup>ST</sup> **Reconciliation Workshop** for Grade 2 10am-noon AT LEAST ONE PARENT & CHILD MUST ATTEND.
- SATURDAY, MARCH 14<sup>TH</sup> ...1<sup>ST</sup> **Reconciliation** for Grade 2 at 10AM. ALL STUDENTS ARRIVE AT 9:50AM  
**Family and friends are invited to attend.**  
We will have a short reception following 1<sup>ST</sup> **Reconciliation**.
- THE 3<sup>RD</sup> – 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADES will be celebrating their **Children's Mass** on SUNDAY, MARCH 8<sup>TH</sup> AT 10 AM. Please have all of those students *to church on that Sunday by 9:25 am*, ready to practice for their mass.

- **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25<sup>TH</sup>...**
  - Grades 3-12 attend **RECONCILIATION** at 7pm instead of regular classes ...sign in for attendance in the Social Hall at 6:45 then JOIN FAMILIES in the church STAYING TO RECEIVE THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
  - K~ 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade will be having normal classes but will end 5 minutes early.
- **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup>...ALL GRADES will attend the Youth Group's LIVING STATIONS AT 7PM IN THE CHURCH.** ALL FAMILIES AND FRIENDS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND WITH THEIR CHILDREN. THIS EXPERIENCE HELPS TO BRING HOME CHRIST'S SACRIFICE AND GOD'S LOVE FOR US MADE MANIFEST
  - Students will sign in for attendance in the Social Hall at 6:45. Students will then join their families in the church. Please arrive early so that the youth can begin on time.
- NO CLASSES ON APRIL 8<sup>TH</sup> due to HOLY WEEK & Duluth Public School Break
- **Don't forget to attend the EASTER TRIDUUM...HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 9<sup>TH</sup> & GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 10<sup>TH</sup> services at 7pm. EASTER VIGIL on Saturday, APRIL 11<sup>TH</sup> at 8pm & EASTER SUNDAY CELEBRATIONS.**
- **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15<sup>ND</sup> Religious Education Classes** will resume.
- WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22<sup>ND</sup>...SAFE ENVIRONMENT SESSION #3. ALL STUDENTS WILL ATTEND this session continuing an extra **30 minutes after Religious Education classes.** Parents are encouraged to attend.
- SATURDAY, APRIL 25<sup>TH</sup>...CONFIRMATION REHEARSAL 10 AM  
**Remember to bring your completed**  
**SPONSOR & CONFIRMATION STUDENT BOOKLET**
- SUNDAY, APRIL 26<sup>TH</sup>...CONFIRMATION 10 AM  
STUDENTS MUST ARRIVE NO LATER THAN 8:45AM
- **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29<sup>TH</sup> REGULAR Religious Education Classes**  
**& LAST Children's Choir Practice**
- **WEDNESDAY, May 6<sup>th</sup>... LAST RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASS**

I would like to close with this thought:

God doesn't ask me to be successful, God only asks me to be faithful.

*Mother Teresa*

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at the office (722-4445), at home (723-1909) or by e-mail ([desi@holyfamilyduluth.org](mailto:desi@holyfamilyduluth.org)).

† Peace in Christ,