

Parish Pastoral Council AGM
Report from Children's Religious Education/Our Catechism Journey
May 15, 2016

To Council Members,

Catechism and Sacramental Prep were a tremendous success this past year. The programs started the year with an Information Meeting and Invitation to Register Sunday Sept. 20 after the 10 am mass. As well The Parent Retreat for Sacramental Prep Year 1 took place Oct. 3, with all classes starting Oct. 18.

Registration was completed with seven children registered in the Pre Sacraments class, 28 children in Year 1 received the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and 11 Children in Year 2 received the Sacraments of First Communion and Confirmation. A new class, Year 3, Sacraments in Action was added with about 10 youth in Grades 4 – 6 in attendance. Following a snack in the hall and game in the gym, children attended Weekly Catechism and Sacramental Preparation classes in school classrooms. Year 1 met in the church after the 10 a.m. mass as the group was too big for a class room.

The Year 1 Reconciliation Celebration was held on Saturday March 12. Year 2 families enjoyed a day-long Family Retreat, April 16, 2016. And the Year 2 Confirmation and Communion was a wonderful celebration with Bishop Gary Gordon and Father Alfredo May 1, 2016 during the 10 am mass.

Next Year: We are unsure of whom some of the Catechists are for 2016-2017 for Catechism or Sacramental Preparation.

We anticipate having to seek out Catechists for Catechism and Sacramental Prep, except for Year1, led by Sarah Madelung. Beth Geras will lead Year 2. Brian Gay may also stay with Year 3. Hopefully others will also return. After many years as a Catechism and Sacramental Prep teacher, Angela Faber will no longer be teaching.

Jeanine Woodman will not continue as coordinator and communications person for Catechism and Sacramental Prep. She will be replaced by Beth Geras and Sarah Madelung.

Also, one program change for next year may be the addition of a Confirmation class for older students. There have been at least five inquiries about this for next year, enough so it would be beneficial to consider hosting an older group. A teacher would be needed for this group as well.

Thank you,
Jeanine Woodman and Laura Gerlinsky,
Coordinators, Children's Religious Education.