

# Letter to Parents of Children Attending St. Luke School and SMRE (Sunday Morning Religious Education)

July 2016

Dear Parents,

St. Luke Parish will begin a new year of education and faith formation for your children starting in August.

Of course, as the primary faith educators of your children, what you teach and reinforce at home is invaluable. However, your example as a practicing Catholic will be the best way to motivate, inspire and teach your child about the beauty of our faith.

Since no Catholic ever finishes growing in the knowledge and practice of the faith, I'd like to invite parents to consider taking advantage of our **adult faith formation initiatives** during the year. Please check for new programs offered each year on the parish website.

Whether you are Catholic or non-Catholic, you may have questions about the Catholic faith. I encourage you to contact me about **R.C.I.A. (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)** sessions that will be offered throughout the year. The RCIA calendar may viewed on the parish website under Religious Education.

***For whom is the RCIA?*** It is for those adults who are unbaptized or baptized in other Christian denominations, and want more information on becoming Catholic. It is also for baptized as Catholics who received little or no formal Catholic education or instructions in the faith as children. Through the RCIA, you can be brought into the full life of the Church and its sacraments. Finally, it is for Catholics who may be returning to the Church and desire to learn about the faith through a structured program.

Have you ever heard of **Marriage on Tap?** We have several events this year at the Willows on Westfield Blvd. MoT provides married couples the opportunity to have an enjoyable evening out for dinner. Couples enlisted to speak share their graced experiences in life. They encourage and inspire all couples to grow more deeply in love with each other and God. Fellowship with other couples is fostered through MoT. Again, you can check out the events as they are posted in August.

On Sunday mornings, during the time that SMRE classes meet, we hope to continue offering **Faith, Fun and Facts** from 10:45 to 11:50 a.m. Facilitators will present various programs to help adults understand and appreciate our Catholic faith. If you go to the 7:30 a.m. or 9:30 a.m. Masses, these sessions may be for you! Watch the bulletin for details.

Children who attend **St. Luke School** have religion classes every day of the week. They are blessed! **If your child is in grade 2 or 8**, don't forget to register your child for First Penance/Communion and Confirmation. Registration forms can be found under Religious Education.

I remind parents of children in *public or other private schools* to register their children for **SMRE classes** that begin with orientation on Sunday, August 14, in the cafeteria, at 10:45 a.m. Every Catholic child who attends public or private non-Catholic schools should be registered for religious instructions or formally homeschooled. To register your child for SMRE, fill out the registration form online no later than August 1.

May the Lord continue to bless you and your loved with 'grace upon grace' in 2016-2017!

Sincerely in the Lord of Life,

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**"I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly." John 10:10**