

August 10, 2020

Dear Parents:

We welcome you and your children to the St. Henry Parish School of Religion (PSR). We take the PSR classes seriously because of our gift of faith and our relationship with God.

While the catechists strive to instruct your child in the Catholic faith and what it means to be true followers of Christ, the parents are the principal educators in your child's faith development. By your participation in the Mass every Sunday and Holy Days and by your Christian example through prayer at home, you will have the strongest and most meaningful religious impact on your child. We look forward to working with you this year. Your full participation and support can truly enrich this process of religious education which begins at Baptism.

ATTENDANCE:

Each student is expected to attend all of the scheduled PSR classes listed on the calendar attached*. Each student is also expected to have all of their materials at each class so that they can participate fully. **A TOTAL OF 3 ABSENCES FROM CLASS WILL BE ALLOWED FOR EACH STUDENT.** *Any absence, except those due to extreme illness or parental custodial issues, is counted as an absence.* Also, leaving early counts towards a partial absence, including those repeated early departures due to non-church related events. If you need to report an absence, please contact Kim Ahrens at kpahrens@yahoo.com or call or text 618-540-8383. ***During a Sacramental school year (2nd grade and 8th grade) students will be expected to not only be in class but also participate at Mass – either virtually or in present at St. Henry or your home parish. It is the pastor's decision whether or not to administer the Sacrament based on the student's attendance at church.***

Students are **expected** to attend Mass **either in person or virtually** and participate in the Eucharist (as age allows) is a highly critical component in Catholic education. ***Again, attendance at Mass is mandatory if your child is expecting to receive First Holy Communion or the Sacrament of Confirmation.***

SNOW DAYS:

In the event of severe weather, please check the St. Henry PSR Facebook page or your email. An email will be sent to all families so please confirm we have your most current information on file.

HOMEWORK & TESTING:

Reasonable written assignments and testing may be given to the students at the discretion of the catechist/teacher. Each student, regardless of whether or not they have a written assignment, is encouraged to spend at least ½ hour during the week studying and reviewing lessons and prayers.

PRAYERS:

A list of formal prayers is contained in the attached Handbook and listed by grade level. Please help your child learn these prayers so they are prepared when entering their particular grade level of education.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS:

If you need to reach your child during class time, please call 618-540-8383. Also, please make sure we have your updated email addresses and phone numbers in case of an emergency.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's teacher or the Director. We are available in the gym every Sunday morning prior to the start of PSR. Of course, you can also contact Father York at any time.

May God bless you and your family.

The Catechists and Staff of St. Henry PSR

Kim Ahrens, Director

kpahrens@yahoo.com; 618-540-8383

**The calendar is not yet finalized. That will be sent out at a later date.*