

Office of Religious Education
7200 Lancaster Pike
Hockessin, Delaware 19707-1240
dre@stmaryoftheassumption.com



St. Mary of the Assumption Parish
Phone: 302-239-7100, ext. 17/18
Fax: 302-239-8219
prep@stmaryoftheassumption.com

February, 2011

Dear St. Mary Family,

Thank you for inquiring about our Religious Education Program. This packet includes all that you will need to register your child/ren (Grades 1 through 8) for the PREP year 2011-12. Please read this entire letter before completing registration. **SUNDAY SESSION TIMES HAVE CHANGED TO MORNINGS.**

Note: Our program seeks to incorporate all components of sound religious formation: knowledge of the faith, meaningful participation in the liturgical & sacramental life of the church, moral formation, prayer, and missionary awareness. To achieve these goals we employ a substantial student text, assign homework at each session, issue progress reports, and depend on parent support.

***DEADLINE FOR NEW REGISTRANTS: APRIL 29, 2011 FOR SUMMER PREP AND
AUGUST 15, 2011 FOR SCHOOL YEAR PREP***

For the academic year 2011 – 12, four PREP options are scheduled for grades 1 through 8:

- 1) **Summer** (2 options): Summer groups meet for an extended period of time. Accordingly, each day counts as at least three absences. Sessions missed because of vacation travel are not permitted.
 - Seats in our summer groups are extremely limited. Placement will be based on registration receipt date and parent/ family willingness to offer on – site volunteer service. (Note: all catechists and support staff are volunteers)
 - Successful completion of the year requires attendance at both the summer and Sunday sessions. Please carefully note these dates. To facilitate attendance compliance, please note that Sunday session times have changed to mornings at 8:45 – 10:15a.m.

A) June 20 – 24; June 27 – June 29 9:00 a.m. – Noon (3 hrs.)
+ 4 Sundays (8:45 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.): Sep 18 '11, Nov. 6 '11, Jan. 8 '12, and Mar. 4, 2012.

B) August 1 – 5; August 8 – 10 9:00 a.m. – Noon (3 hrs.)
+ 4 Sundays (8:45 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.): Oct. 2 '11, Dec. 4 '11, Feb. 5 '12 and Mar. 11, 2012.

2) Academic Year (2 options)

1. **Monday evenings: September 19, 2011– April 2, 2012 - 5:15 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.**
2. **Tuesday evenings: September 20, 2011 – April 3, 2012 - 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.**

**Deadline for new registrants: April 29, 2011 for Summer sign-ups and
August 15, 2011 for school year PREP program**
A late fee will be charged against registrations received after this date.

An Important Note: St. Mary's PREP is open only to registered, participating members of the parish. Our fee scale presumes that all of our families are financially supporting the parish and contributing at least \$100 in annual donations. Every fall, the PREP roster is compared with the list of active contributors. In the event that regular contribution cannot be determined, a \$100 surcharge will be assessed. If financial or other serious problems prevent compliance, please contact the priests or the DRE.

PREP fees for 2010 – 11 fees are:

\$100 for one child, \$125 for two and \$150 for three or more in the family.

At each session, space allows placement of 30 or fewer students per grade. Seats are assigned as registration forms are received, with priority given (first) to children of on – site volunteers and (second) to students whose attendance has been consistent in the past.

As you decide which PREP option to select for your child(ren), please consider:

- Your child (ren)'s attention span and fatigue level in relation to session length and time
- The importance of on-time, regular attendance
- Vacations, outside activities and school functions are generally not reasons for PREP absences.

When completing your registration, please remember that:

- Extended absences because of scheduling problems are not permitted.
- Once a registration is processed, changes should be a rare exception. A \$25 per student administrative surcharge may be assessed for every scheduling change.

Processing your registration:

- We are moving toward **using email as our primary method of communicating** with PREP parents. It is very important that you provide a valid, and regularly-checked parent email address.
- We will be unable to process registration forms missing valid email contact information.

Once your registration materials are received:

- Within a few weeks, you will be contacted via email asking that you acknowledge receipt of the message **via a return email**. This confirms registration processing & accuracy of our records.
- If we need to place your child in other than your first choice, you will be notified within 30 days of registration processing or as soon as we know a PREP session has been filled and closed.
- Your child's placement will be confirmed via email one month BEFORE session start date.

To be processed, your registration must include:

- Registration form with session choices clearly indicated. PLEASE SIGN
- Emergency Contact form (green) PLEASE SIGN
- Baptismal Certificate – required for Grade 1 students and all new students.
- Check for fee (\$100, \$125 OR \$150), payable to "St. Mary of the Assumption"

In advance, thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions, please call the office.

Sincerely,

Sheila H. Meara, Director of Religious Education (x17)

Sandy Fiscella, PREP Secretary (x18)

Deadline for new registrants: April 29, 2011 for summer PREP and August 15, 2011 for school year PREP