August 2024

Children's Faith Formation & Youth Ministry

Hello Families,

My apologies in getting back to writing my newsletters. It has taken some time to adjust to getting back to work, and adding another little person to my family! Thank you for your patience and understanding.

We had Vacation Bible School the last week of June. It was a great time, focusing on and learning about the Eucharist. The theme was "Come to the Table", and we learned about how everyone is welcome, there's more than enough at God's Table, Jesus' welcome changes everything, Jesus shows us what love looks like, and we can love like Jesus. This was built to compliment the Eucharistic Revival happening right now! This is a very exciting time in the Church. In Father Mike Schmitz's talk at the Revival he challenged us, that it may not be that we don't believe the Eucharist is Jesus' true body and blood, but that we might not care. "If the remedy for ignorance is to get to knowledge, and the road to knowledge is truth, the remedy for indifference is love, and the road to love is repentance," Father Mike Schmitz, well known for his Bible in a Year podcast.

Father Mike also stated, "Knowledge can make someone great, but only love can make a Saint." This quote is something I would like to reflect on, as I share some of the findings from the ARK. (Assessment of Religious Knowledge, which our youth took for this first time this Spring.) I know Father Tony shares my sentiment in that we are less worried about how much our youth learn, but rather what behaviors are they learning and adopting, and how are they loving Jesus more by the work we do.

With looking at a snapshot, our youth did great in relation to their peers, scoring above the diocese average. However, the one challenge I bring, when observing behavior, is that less than half stated they go to Confession regularly. After listening to Father



Upcoming Events

August 1st Youth Work Evening in God's Garden 7:00-8:30 pm

August 8th
Build Float for Arts Parade at
Pole Barn

August 10th Englewood Arts Festival Parade

September 8th 1st Sunday of Classes 9:00-10:15

** WE ARE STILL IN NEED OF A 3RD GRADE TEACHER! Please pray about if God may be calling you to use your gifts in teaching and sharing the faith with our youth! Mike, praying about how we bring revival home, and make it real, I would like to challenge you to find a way to make Confession something you do frequently, like once a month. (I need this too!!)

Confession Schedule

Monday - Saturday 11:30 - 11:50 am | St. Joseph

Saturday 4:00-4:45 pm | Emmanuel

4:00-4:20 pm | St. Joseph

3:30-4:20 pm | St. Paul

Sunday 8:00-8:25 am | Holy Trinity

Below I have some of the highlights of findings from the ARK. Per Archdiocese guidelines we will take the ARK again this year, and assess how we are improving. I include our results as many have asked for them. Please note these are in no way a 100% accurate picture. It was our first year taking this assessment. Also if any students were absent, there was no make-up test. The way the questions were worded was confusing to some students as well, which also could have impacted the data. I am pleased with the results, and will do what I can to help students gain better understanding in the areas of needed improvement.

ade Level	Knowledge Score	Diocese Average	National Percentile	Belief & Behavior	Benchmarking	
Grade 2	62	58	49	72	40.0% 60.0%	
Grade 3	53	61	0	N/A	75.0% 25.0%	
Grade 4	65	54	0	86	50.0% 33.3% 16.7%	
Grade 5	64	57	0	85	20.0% 70.0% 10.09	
Grade 6	58	54	0	86	75.0% 12.5% 12.5%	
Grade 7	51	47	0	82	80.0%	
Grade 8	58	51	0	78	50.0% 50.0%	



Living Discipleship	65	40.0%	60.0%	_
Lent		3 of 5 60.0%		•
Liturgical Year		4 of 5 80.0%		Ø
Use of Scripture		3 of 5 60.0%		②
Advent		3 of 5 60.0%		②
Lent		3 of 5 60.0%		Ø
Liturgical Year		4 of 5 80.0%		Ø
Use of Scripture		3 of 5 60.0%		②
Advent		3 of 5 60.0%		Ø
Lent		3 of 5 60.0%		Ø
Liturgical Year		4 of 5 80.0%		Ø
Use of Scripture		3 of 5 60.0%		Ø
Advent		3 of 5 60.0%		Ø
Morality	73	20.0%	60.0% 20.0%	







