



Corpus Christi Parish

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Very Rev. Philip A. Tracy

May the peace and joy of Jesus be with you and your loved ones!!

I wish to welcome you to our Sacramental Program this year. We continually evaluate this program to ensure that we are providing you with the tools and experiences necessary to prepare your child to become fully initiated in the Catholic faith. We have a tendency to see sacraments as objects we “receive” or “get”. However, they are really encounters with Jesus Christ that form us to be disciples. For this reason, the primary emphasis of our program is that you and your family grow in your appreciation of all that Jesus is doing in your lives.

We have streamlined our parent offerings to better show the relationship that exists among these sacraments and to help you present that to your child throughout the year. We have added a special presentation for parents who have had an older child go through our sacramental program. Your attendance at this meeting is a prerequisite for your child continuing in formation. In addition, we ask that you be faithful in bringing your child to weekly mass and other liturgies throughout the year. Every year we have children who do not know what happens at mass and do not know the basic prayers of the Church. This frustrates them and makes it harder for our catechist to teach.

Your child will need a sponsor to witness his or her celebration of Confirmation. The enclosed guidelines provide you with some qualities to look for in this person. If your child’s godparents are still alive, they provide a solid witness to the relationship between Baptism and Confirmation. Your child’s sponsor will assist you in giving examples of Christian living, so choose carefully. You will also find a certificate of eligibility for your sponsor candidate to fill out. This will help them to understand the importance of the role that you have asked them to take upon themselves. This will also help me to determine if they are a Catholic in good standing and therefore eligible to assume these important responsibilities. If you have some concerns about the criteria for a sponsor and the person that you intend to select, please contact one of the priests, Elaine Gordon or Karen MacLean. We will be glad to help you with these issues. I encourage you to begin finding your child’s sponsor in a timely manner. Again, every year we are scrambling around the week of the celebration because we have not received the information or because a proposed sponsor cannot procure a pastor’s signature indicating that they are a registered and practicing parishioner. Early attention to this matter will allow such individuals to register and become more explicit in their living the Christian life.

Please, carefully note the dates of all the meetings and workshops/retreats and place them on your calendar. We will not be able to offer the number of make up sessions that we have had in the past. Please make these a priority as you schedule your activities for the year.

I look forward to working with you and our staff to celebrate God’s goodness in our midst.

Sincerely,

Very Rev. Philip A. Tracy