



St. Michael Catholic Church

Faith Formation Office

317 West Willow Ave • Wheaton, IL 60187 • phone: 630.682.3650 • fax: 630.690.3324

Postscript to Parents

October 30th, 2011

IMPORTANT for all attending MONDAY's RE

**No RE class this Monday, October 31st, 2011 – Halloween
Instead**

**We will have RE class on Monday, November 28th, 2011
(Monday after Thanksgiving weekend)**

ARRIVAL: Please bring your children on time for religion class.

Tardiness delays and disrupts the beginning of the class period.

ATTENDANCE: The attendance is marked and taken to the office shortly after class begins.

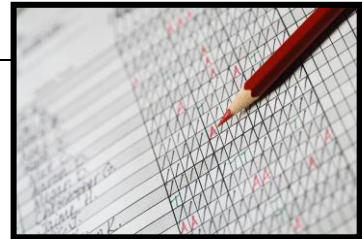
TARDINESS: The late comers are marked absent and the only way for the office to know the child is in class is if the catechist/aide/student or parent informs the office. Our goal is to keep the attendance records accurate and it is much easier to do so when all students are on time.

DISMISSAL: Children must be picked up on time. Five minutes after class ends, any child not picked up will be taken to the Faith Formation office to wait.

Class Sessions and Times for PRE through Gr. 6

All classes run 1 hour & 15 minutes

Session A - Sunday - 8:45 to 10:00 a.m.
Session B - Sunday - 10:30 to 11:45 a.m.
Session C - Monday - 4:30 - 5:45 p.m.



Dropping off / Picking up your child



We are kindly asking all parents of Religious Education students to follow the rules of the road and to have patience while picking up your child. Please do not park in the driving lanes, especially if it is to run in to get your child. There have been a couple of issues when children were running to meet their parents and did not see cars trying to exit the lot. Please be mindful of other parents picking up their children. We want everyone to be safe.

Thank you in advance for your understanding and for your cooperation!

CATHOLICISM

ADULT FORMATION PROGRAM

Please join us **next Sunday, November 6th**
10:30 – 11:45AM
1st Floor of the Faith Center

To watch **CATHOLICISM** with Fr. Robert Barron
Facilitated by Matt Pozen
St. Michael's Adult Faith Formation Director

*“Simply the most vivid catechism ever created;
a high-def, illustrated manuscript for the 21st century
and the best-ever film about the Catholic faith.”*

Join us at St. Michael's to watch all 10 DVDs

Sun, Nov 6th

Sun, Dec 4th

Sun, Jan 22nd

Sun, Feb 5th & 26th

Sun, March 11th

Sun, April 15th & 29th


WORD
ON FIRE
WordOnFire.org

WORD ON FIRE
CATHOLIC MINISTRIES
*5215 Old Orchard Road, Suite 410
Skokie, Illinois 60077*

CATHOLICISM
WWW.CATHOLICISMSERIES.COM

Chicago's WTTW presents **CATHOLICISM** a groundbreaking new documentary series for public television.

Join Father Robert Barron, theologian, author, and sought-after speaker, as he illuminates what Catholics believe and why... on your local public television affiliate.

Thursday, November 3 at 8pm & **Sunday, November 6 at 4pm**

Episode 5—The Indispensable Men: Peter, Paul and the Missionary Adventure

- ❖ The beauty, truth and goodness of CATHOLICISM will draw the culture more deeply into the Gospel
- ❖ A breakthrough program that truly provides substantive, catechetical content in a visually compelling and engaging way
- ❖ Presents a well-rounded, straightforward and balanced approach that is faithful to the teachings of the Church

Introduction to the new Roman Missal
By Fr. Don McLaughlin, Pastor
Weekend of October 22 & 23, 2011

The year was 1966. I was in 8th grade.....and the changes to the Mass called for by Vatican Council II were beginning to be implemented. The Mass I had grown up with as a child was now unfamiliar....the priest faced the people, the altar was moved closer to the congregation, and the prayers in Latin were gone, replaced by English, the vernacular. I remember being so upset about the changes that I quit altar serving!! I suspect many of you had similar reactions at first as well. Let's face it - change is difficult no matter what age you are! But over the years most of us have come to appreciate the changes that were intended to engage us in a fuller and active participation in the Mass. We have grown accustomed to and memorized the words and texts of the Mass translation we have been using the past 40 years. Indeed, there are many here today who only know that Mass!

No doubt you have heard that a new English translation of the Mass is being implemented on the First Sunday of Advent, November 26th & 27th this year. Our Adult Faith Formation Director Matt Pozen has been writing a weekly bulletin article for the past several months explaining the Mass and preparing us for this transition of a new Missal. Today I want to share with you briefly some of the background and reason for this new translation of the Mass in English as we prepare to embrace this translation with open hearts, minds, and a deepening spirituality.

In 2001, Pope John Paul II in writing *Liturgiam Authenticam* called for a more precise translation of the Mass in all the worlds languages that would give Catholics a better sense of the richness of the original Latin text. Some countries such as Great Britain have already implemented their translation, the United States is doing so on the First Sunday of Advent, and other countries are still in the process of re-translating. When the Second Vatican Council's document *Sacrosanctum Concilium* allowed for a more extended use of the vernacular within the Mass, various groups worked quickly to develop an official English translation that was published in 1973. The approach to translation used at the time was known as "dynamic equivalence" aimed at communicating the general meaning of the Latin text of the Mass, rather than providing a literal, or word-for-word translation. After forty years of celebrating Mass in English, the Church has come to see certain areas where the English text could be improved. When the Latin text was paraphrased, a number of rich spiritual metaphors and images were lost. Important theological concepts were not always clear, and several biblical allusions did not shine out as noticeably as they should.

The new translation of the Mass, while you will notice is grammatically awkward at times, preserves more fully the theological tradition captured throughout the centuries in the liturgy. It also more clearly communicates the many biblical allusions and vital theological

concepts that are expressed in the original Latin. For example, the new translation preserves traditional theological terms such as Jesus being “consubstantial with the Father” and made “incarnate” of the Blessed Virgin Mary – terms that are not a part of our everyday vocabulary, but are important to pass down in our worship.

In addition, the revised translation as a whole uses a more “heightened” style of English that is less conversational but nobler in tone. When we celebrate the Mass, we are celebrating something entirely different than our everyday normal or routine activities which use informal language and a casual manner. When the Mass uses more heightened language that emphasizes God’s goodness, power, and glory, we may be more disposed to recognize that we are encountering the presence of the all-holy God in the sacred liturgy and to approach Him with greater humility, reverence, and gratitude.

With these significant changes in the Mass, we will need to learn new responses and new musical settings. Fr. Mark will introduce us to the new responses on the weekends of November 5th & 6th and 19th & 20th. We have already begun learning and using new musical settings. And I suspect that for quite some time we will all be following along with the printed worship aids that will be provided each Sunday. If you want a simple Missal of your own, on the weekends that Fr. Mark introduces us to the new responses, we will have available for just one dollar a small booklet that contains the newly translated Mass. All these changes will give us the opportunity to deepen our understanding of the meaning of the Mass. To that end, I strongly encourage you to attend the presentation that will be given by our Director of Liturgy and Music, Christopher Orf and our Adult Faith Formation Director, Matt Pozen, this Monday evening at 7:00pm in our church. A second session with a different focus will be on Monday, November 7th. The more we grasp the meaning of what we say and do in the Mass, the more we will be able to give ourselves to God in the liturgy and encounter Him in these sacred mysteries.

Some see these changes as a return to a more conservative Church. Others see them as an ongoing implementation of Vatican II. Regardless, the important thing to remember is that the ESSENCE of the Mass is not changing at all! The newly translated Mass will still be the same Eucharistic presence of Jesus since He first gave us the command 2,000 years ago to “do this in memory of me”.

Those of us who were alive 40 years ago when the changes of Vatican II were implemented and we struggled to embrace those changes back then, I am certain that the new translation, in time, will become as familiar to us as that which we have prayed these past 40 years. I now chuckle at my initial response to the changes of Vatican II those many years ago.....after quitting altar serving, just look at what I am doing today!