

To all of my beloved parents of St. Rose of Lima parish, may the peace and love of Jesus Christ be with you all!

I pray your summers were refreshing and blessed! And now, as your children return to school for another year of education, I would like to offer you all both a word of encouragement, as well as to indicate the plan for this year's Faith Formation at St. Rose of Lima.

First, a word of encouragement: *Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him. Just as the living Father sent me and I have life because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on me will have life because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven. Unlike your ancestors who ate and still died, whoever eats this bread will live forever* (John 6:54-58). I invite you, in this brief moment, to consider that, no matter how much might have changed for you in this past year or so, with the world seemingly turned upside-down with COVID, that this truth has remained, and always will remain, rock-solid. Jesus loves you; cares for you; and constantly gives you His very Self in the Eucharist, His Body and Blood, to feed you with the very life of God. That will never go away. I invite you, to let that bring peace to your mind and heart, and encouragement, that what we are about here at St. Rose of Lima, is nothing less than cooperating with that grace in the Eucharist, to lead us to eternal life. Let that good news sink in!

Then, as to our plan, I ask that you **please thoroughly read and complete the Religious Education Registration Form, as well as the Sacramental Preparation Form**, attached and in your preferred language. Only one of these forms need to be completely filled-out for your family (just add extra children as needed). Taking the time to make sure that all information is filled in will ensure that, should any unforeseen emergency arise, we will be able to contact you, the parents, promptly. Thank you for your attention to these details!

We will start classes on Wednesday, September 15; and the last date of our classes will be May 4, 2022.

**Kindergarten – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade: 3:15 pm – 5:00 pm (small snack included)**

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade: 5:30 – 6:00 pm (optional meal); 6:00 – 7:30 pm (class)**

And lastly, instead of another meeting for you to attend, this year instead of having one parent meeting for all the families, I have decided to just meet individually with families, especially with those whose children are preparing to receive one of the sacraments. So I appreciate your help in advance in helping me find a date and time to visit you at your home, to talk more one on one about how the faith life is going in the home, and how I can better serve you as your priest (please don't worry about preparing a meal or anything; the essential thing is just being able to have that personal conversation with you, the parents).

I look forward to a great year of cooperating with Our Lord's grace this year in our lives!

I remain faithfully yours, in the love of Christ,

Fr. Mark Horn