

**Most Holy Redeemer
School of Religion
Evergreen Park, IL
(708) 346-8185**

January 25, 2012

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.

The Sacrament of Confirmation will take place on Sunday, February 26, 2012 at 1 p.m. As your 8th grade student prepares for the Sacrament of Confirmation, I would like to outline the remaining classes that your student must attend.

- Beginning February 6 Confirmation interviews at various times / Confirmation Exam / Collect Reflection Packet with service projects listed
- Monday, February 13 Reconciliation
- Monday, February 20 President's Holiday ~ No class
- Tuesday, February 21 NET Retreat ~ A must for all confirmandi
- Thursday, February 23 Confirmation practice 6:30 - 8 p.m. in Church;
- Sunday, February 26 Reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation at 1 p.m. Mass; Reception with Bishop Andrew P. Wypych immediately following the liturgy in Briody Hall
- Monday, February 27 Lenten Prayer Service / Jesus Sends Us the Holy Spirit / Confirmation reflection
- Monday, March 5 Celebrating Jesus' Presence
- Monday, March 12 *"The Way, the Truth, and the Life"* chapter / Passover Meal
- Monday, March 19 Spring Break ~ no class
- Monday, March 26 *"Honoring Life"* chapter / Practice Stations
- Monday, April 2 Stations of the Cross performed by the 8th grade students at 7 p.m. in Church
- Monday, April 9 Easter ~ No class
- Monday, April 16 *"Honoring Relationships"* chapter
- Monday, April 23 *"Honoring Others"* chapter
- Monday, April 30 End of year Mass at 7 p.m.; Presentation of certificates

Your students have heard the words of the Lord and the invitation to join in Jesus' work of evangelization, to bring the Good News to others. They have brought the Good News to others through their numerous service projects

The NET retreat will take place on Tuesday, February 21. Please see the attached information and volunteer sheet.

We ask that you continue to support and pray for the confirmandi, especially as they petition Bishop Wypych to receive Confirmation and complete their studies.

Practice for Confirmation will take place on **Thursday, February 23, from 6:30 - 8 p.m.** in Church. **This practice is for candidates only. All candidates are expected to attend.**

This year Bishop Andrew P. Wypych will administer the Sacrament of Confirmation on Sunday, February 26, 2012. **THE CONFIRMATION MASS WILL BEGIN AT 1 p.m.** Parents, candidates, and sponsors must arrive **NO LATER THAN 12:45 P.M.** Nametags will be in the vestibule of the Church for each candidate. There will not be a collection during the Confirmation Mass. We do ask that each family make a donation for this special occasion. An envelope is enclosed for your convenience. **Please make checks payable to Most Holy Redeemer.** Have your child bring the donation to class, the rectory, or the practice on February 23. This collection is a stipend for the Bishop. Please be as generous as possible.

This Confirmation Mass will fulfill your Sunday Mass obligation. You are asked to make your usual Sunday contribution by dropping your envelope off in the basket on the gift table.

Candidates are expected to wear their "**Sunday Best.**" Each candidate will have a pew designated for their family. The candidate will sit at the end of the pew with his or her sponsor next to them, then their parents and remaining family.

Parents you brought your child to the Church for Baptism and have nurtured his/her faith life up to this point, we ask you to accept the privilege of presenting your child for Confirmation. You are invited to come forward with the sponsor and stand behind the candidate for Confirmation.

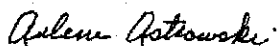
In keeping with the beauty and solemnity of this occasion, we ask that you **refrain from taking pictures and talking during the Confirmation Mass and anointing.** If there are any special seating arrangements, please contact the office at 346.8185. Immediately following the Mass, there will be a **reception in Briody Hall** to honor our newly Confirmed. Pictures with the Bishop may be taken at that time. All Confirmandi will receive a certificate. These certificates will be given on the last day of class.

Confirmation is not graduation from church. It is a continuation of living full lives in the church. We start to really let other people see who we are living our lives for, that is Jesus. As we allow the Holy Spirit to give us courage we will be able to talk about Jesus to the whole world (this includes our family, friends, and classmates). We continue to be of service to others, listen to our teachers, and continue to grow in faith.

Thank you to Mrs. Mary Kay Signorelli, Mr. John Albarran, and Mr. Chris Brett who embraced your children as coheirs in God's kingdom.

"Jesus that you would humble yourself to live in our hearts fills us with gratitude. We praise you for sending us your spirit to transform us into your very image."

Your sister in Christ,



Arlene Astrowski
Director of Religious Education

NET Retreat

The NET team is coming to Briody Hall to facilitate our 8th grade Confirmation retreat, "You Will Receive Power" on Tuesday, February 21, at 8:15 a.m. **All 8th graders are required to attend this retreat as a part of their ongoing formation as young adults in the Catholic Church.** Please note the importance of the retreat, If your child attends the public school, we will inform the school as to who will attend the retreat. We ask that you also call that day and inform them of your child's absence, and return the signed permission form to the School of Religion by February 13. This is an all day retreat from 8:15 - 2:30 p.m. For the retreat day the student should wear casual dress clothes. T-shirts with writing, cut off jean shorts, jeans with holes in them, or ripped clothing is unacceptable. Students should bring a bag lunch with their name on the bag and something to drink.

PERMISSION FORM PARENTAL/ GUARDIAN AUTHORIZATIONS

I request that Most Holy Redeemer School/Religious Education Program allow my child,
_____ to participate in the following sponsored activity on
the parish grounds on Tuesday, February 21, from 8:15 am. – 2:30 pm.

8th grade Post-Confirmation Retreat in Briody Hall

I understand that the activity will take place on the parish premises and that my child will be under supervision. I further consent to the conditions stated above on participation in this event, including any method of transportation.

I hereby release and indemnify Most Holy Redeemer Parish School/Religious Education Program, its staff and its volunteers, and the Catholic Bishop of Chicago, a corporation sole, from any and all liability arising from claims of any kind or nature whatsoever from my child's participation in this event.

In the event of an emergency and I cannot be reached, and in the judgment of the designated supervisor of the activity or other responsible person accompanying the group, there is a necessity for immediate examination and/or treatment of my child, I hereby authorize any of the aforesaid personnel to obtain for my child such medical services as are deemed necessary.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Telephone



NET MINISTRIES

Coming To MHR

WHAT IS NET ANYWAY?

The *National Evangelization Teams* are groups of Catholic young adults from around the U.S. (and beyond). These dynamic groups travel across the country conducting retreats for Catholic young people!

This is a chance for our Junior High youth to experience a dynamic group of young people who travel across the country conducting retreats for Catholic youth just like ours. They will be here to challenge our young people to love Christ and embrace the life of the church.

This team of young people, ages 18 - 30, sacrifice one year of their lives to bring the gospel to their contemporaries. They actually live out the gospel call, "to go and preach to all nations." They don't worry about what they eat and where they sleep.

We as a parish family need to provide housing for the nights of Monday, February 20 and Thursday, February 23. Take this opportunity to live out your calling as Catholics by volunteering to host at least two of the group of 12.

Please call Arlene Astrowski at 346.8185 ext 226 and leave a message. She will contact you as soon as possible.

THE NET RETREAT ~ CHALLENGING YOUNG CATHOLICS TO LOVE CHRIST AND EMBRACE THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Who: 7th & 8th grade students from MHR and the SOR
When: 8th gr. – Tuesday, February 21; 7th grade – Thursday, February 23
Where: Briody Hall
For Info: Host families are needed, please consider helping in this way. Contact Arlene Astrowski at 346.8185 or return the form below to the Rectory.

COME AND SEE:

Humorous skits
Fun games
Great talks
Moving dramas
Small groups
Great music
Uplifting prayer

Host Family Information

Host family name _____
Address _____ City/State/Zip _____
Phone _____ Animals _____
Can house up to (#) _____ Gender preference _____

Provide a Meal, Treat, Soft drinks

Name _____ Address _____
Meal I can provide _____