

August Calendar

- July 30 Registration Begins
- New registration forms will be mailed to those families who had children enrolled in Religious Education Classes last year.
- Aug. 5/6 Religious Education registration forms available at church entrances.
- Aug. 22 Catechist in-service with new textbook company. St. Gertrude Parish Hall at 6:30 PM.
- Sept. 26 Religious Education classes begin at CMA, 6:30 PM

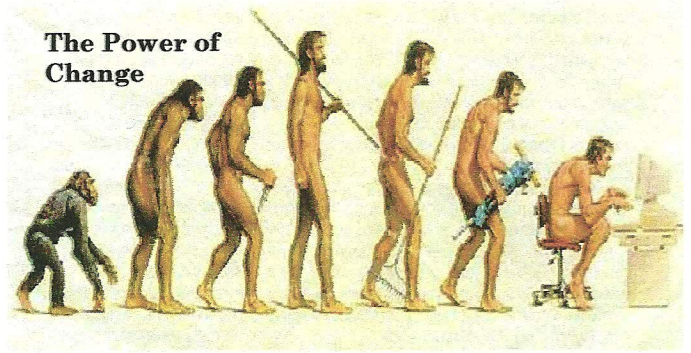
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Changes in Religious Education and Faith Formation Program

I can't say that I ever knew anyone who was excited about having to make changes. We all must deal with it's consequences at some time, for there is nothing more *constant* than *change*. Change can be a powerful tool for growth and a strong weapon against the status quo.

Many times, the first thing we think about when we hear that something is changing is, "Good grief, How is this going to effect my life?" Before we get too anxious about having to change, consider how it can be an opportunity to evaluate what we think is important to us. It shakes us out of our complacency and chal-



lenges us to new and, hopefully, better ideas.

Some of the changes to our new *combined* Religious Education Program are; the night, (Monday night), new texts, new faces, and new opportunities. We will be offering a middle school, (grades 6, 7, & 8), grouping in a modified Youth Group format. Making Monday "formation night" will

give us regular, consistent scheduling. Sacramental prep, including intergenerational workshops, seasonal "Family Faith and Fun" activities, such as *Praying the Rosary*, *Santa's Workshop*, and *Palm Burning/Mardi Gras evening*, will be held on formation night, (Monday), as well. Occasional adult formational topics will also be scheduled.

Registration for Religious Education Classes Begins.

This year the Parish Religious Education Program (PREP) will take place at Cardinal Maida Academy in Vandergrift on Monday nights from 6:30 PM to 7:45 PM. Registrations will begin August 1 with the mailing of informa-

tion and registration forms to families who had children enrolled in last year's Religious Education Program.

There will be registration forms available the following weekend at the

entrances to the church. You may also download forms from online at the parish website.

Forms may be returned by mail or in person to the parish office or be dropped in the collection.

