

Saint Luke the Evangelist

8 Atkinson Depot Road Plaistow, NH 03865 TEL (603) 382-8324 FAX (603) 382-1113

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION UPDATE!

Students K – 6 should be registered for Religious Education on Sunday morning.

Sacramental Preparation

Grades 2 (Reconciliation)

Grade 3 (Confirmation & Eucharist)

Sacramental Preparation for older children

Resource Program for junior high & high school students

Sacramental Preparation for junior high & high school students

Our Parish community thanks you as parents for your continuing commitment to quality religious education. This letter is to encourage you to enroll your child in our Parish Religious Education at Saint Luke. **Our Religious Education program for students in K - 6 continues this fall with Sunday dismissal at the 10:00 am Liturgy at Plaistow.** As in years past, students will be dismissed at the beginning of Liturgy and will proceed downstairs to the classrooms where they hear the Gospel of the day and proceed with their lesson for that week. The session ends with the Creed and then students return to church for the rest of the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

We continue to utilize the Pflaum program as in the past, so that students will have a 4-page leaflet each week with reading and activities. The Pflaum Bulletin inserts will be printed each week, and on-line resources continue to be available for parents. We will also be providing a resource book for each student published by Loyola Press. The Loyola Press texts are a valuable and age-appropriate resource for your use as you see fit.

Sacramental Preparation will also return in the Fall. Students in the second grade are eligible to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and students in the third grade are eligible to celebrate the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist. Eligibility is based on a family's participation in the Sacramental life of the Church (Sunday Mass) and on a child's enrollment in religious education. The sacramental preparation programs for students are home-based and are published by Pflaum. They are user friendly and provide all kinds of on-line resources for parents. In addition, we have materials and a program ready for older students who may have "missed" Sacramental celebrations, and programs for students with special needs. Contact Cathy Smith or Father Albert in the Parish Office for more information about these opportunities.

Enclosed please find a Religious Education registration form for the 2024-25 year. Please complete it and return it to the Parish Office at your earliest convenience.

Our Parish does not offer a Sunday dismissal program for students in junior high school. Most of those eligible students have continued to indicate a strong preference to remain in church for the entire liturgy... I am not going to argue with any student on that point. We do, however, have programmatic resources available for junior and senior high school students by request.

If you are the parent of a Catholic School or home school student, please note that our Sunday dismissal program is entirely optional for your child. Students at Catholic schools are always welcome to participate and can be registered using the enclosed form. The Parish requires Catholic School students and home school students who are involved in Sacramental Preparation (Reconciliation, Confirmation and Eucharist) to complete the Parish program in all cases.

Adults are always welcome to sit in on our formation programs. We also welcome volunteer adults to help with the Sunday Dismissal program as Catechists, Aides or Hall Aides. All volunteers must complete a Diocesan Application, a mandated Diocesan Child Safety program and a NH or MA State background check.

Adults are also welcome to consider any of our Adult Faith Formation programs. Please consult the Bulletin or call Cathy Smith, our Pastoral Associate, for more information.

Our Parish is committed to providing whatever resources and experiences we can to families to assist in faith formation. Your suggestions are always welcome. I can be contacted at the above address or at fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net with any questions.

Kind Regards,

(Rev.) Albert J. Tremblay, obl. SB
Pastor