

Welcome to a new year of Faith Formation at Saint Agnes. We thank you for letting us partner with you in your child's journey of faith. **YOU** are the primary educator of your child in the Catholic Faith and we are blessed and privileged to assist in this most important task. The gift of instruction in the faith is the most important thing that you do as parents and guardians – one that has <u>eternal benefits</u>! May God continue to bless your family and volunteers as we begin another year - getting closer to the Lord and forming personal relationships with Jesus.

Attached is the calendar for the year as well as a Middle School Youth Group schedule and Rally flyer for those in grades 6-8. Please note that there are monthly *Family Masses* on the schedule, with each grade taking a turn hosting. Students will have the opportunity to sign up as **Lectors, Greeters, Gift Bearers and Altar Servers.** Sign-up sheets will be brought to their class, and a reminder sent home if your child volunteers. It is important to encourage all students to participate fully. If they choose not to volunteer, we urge you to bring them to that particular Mass.

*Mass attendance* is an integral part of the Faith Formation program and a requirement of our Christian faith. When we teach about The Mass, it is very confusing for students whose families choose not to attend. And most importantly, Mass is not the same if you are not there! We are a *community of faith* – and when we gather as the Body of Christ, we are stronger because of our prayers and sharing in the Eucharist. Saint Agnes offers many opportunities for Mass throughout the weekend. *Thank you* and may God bless you for making every effort to bring your family to Mass. We look forward to seeing you there and worshiping as a family of faith!

Again, we thank you for the trust you put in us and together we can pray for a successful and blessed year.

Blessings and Peace,

Lisa Stankiewicz