## **Parish Stationery**

Dear Parents or Guardians,

Would you agree that being parents who want their child to know God and their faith is challenging in today's world? There are so many competing values and different activities you want your child to experience. Still, you want your child to know God and how God loves them.

Our parish records indicate you have a child at the age of preparation for the sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and Eucharist (Communion). What a beautiful and maybe even daunting privilege you have as the primary educators in your child's faith formation!

This letter is to support you in this role and to let you know that our diocese has developed a new approach to preparing children to receive the sacraments. This approach involves you more closely and will foster a partnership among you, our parish faith formation coordinators, and our catechists.

This new method consists of a two-year preparation period. The first (called Year 1) includes children in first or second grade and will focus on yours and your child's relationship with God and the Church. The second (called Year 2) includes children in second or third grade. It will focus on each of the three sacraments and what children need to know so their hearts are fully prepared to receive them.

We cherish your role as parent, so are asking you to join with your child in several sessions each of those years. We will give you ideas and tools to help your child understand what it means to be a Catholic who loves God and is loved by God. We hope this will also help you grow together in your love of God and the church.

We welcome all parents who want to prepare their child for these sacraments whether married, single, separated or divorced (in these last two situations, you decide whether both parents can be involved), currently active in the church or not, a parent who may not be a Catholic, guardians, and other significant adults you want involved in the faith formation of your child.

For more details, please join us for an informational meeting on (date, time and location). For more information and to register your child, contact (name with phone number and e-mail).

Thank you for your love of God and our church. We look forward to collaborating with you as faith formation educators of your children.

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Pastor

Parish Catechetical Leader