



**Dear Parents/Guardians,**

Welcome to St. Cecilia Parish Religious Education Program. We thank you for allowing us to be partners with you in the religious formation of your child. The Catholic Church believes that parents are the first and most important educators of their own children. The church views the role of parents in the religious formation of children as both a privilege and an obligation. We are happy to assist you as the primary educators of your children in the Catholic faith. Thank you for your interest in our religious education program at St. Cecilia Parish. PLEASE READ CAREFULLY and COMPLETE the following information about registering your child(ren) in our programs.

### **TIMES OFFERED**

We offer religious education classes for students in Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grades on Monday evenings from 6-7:30 p.m. and also on Wednesday evenings (7-8:30 p.m.) for children who are enrolled in the Rite of Christian Initiation for Children program.

### **PRESCHOOL CLASSES**

We will continue to offer Children's Liturgy of the Word for children ages 3-7 during the 10 AM Sunday Mass. Children need not register in order to participate. ALL children (ages 3-7) are invited to come. Children's Liturgy of the Word essentially is worship, not catechesis. Children attending CLW are not registered in a formal religious education program, but in a program that helps children better understand the Gospel message.

### **REGISTRATION FEES**

Registration fees are \$35 per student in grades K-8<sup>th</sup>. This fee helps defray a portion of the textbooks, supplies, activities, and supplemental teaching materials. Registration fees are waived for children in the RCIC program. All registration fees are due with the registration forms. If you need financial assistance to help with RE registration fees, please contact Julie Althaver, DRE, at the parish office so special arrangements can be made. She can be reached at: 871-5757 extension 11 or email her at: [julie.althaver@stcecieliacincinnati.org](mailto:julie.althaver@stcecieliacincinnati.org).

### **SACRAMENT FEES**

If your child is making the Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Reconciliation, please note there is an additional fee of \$30. This fee helps defray the cost of sacrament materials, retreats, certificates and a special luncheon for the student and his/her parents. St. Cecilia celebrates the Sacrament of Confirmation every other year. Our next Confirmation class will begin September 2012.

### **CALENDAR**

St. Cecilia's Parish Religious Education program (PREP) begins on Monday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011 and generally meets on the first three Mondays of each month from 6-7:30 p.m. The RCIC program begins on Wednesday, September 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm and concludes at 8:30 pm.

Please note some months our calendar may change depending on holidays or on the parish school schedule. Make note of the days PREP & RCIC meets and mark your calendar accordingly.

### **PARENT INVOLVEMENT/ACTIVITIES**

We are asking ALL parents to volunteer in some capacity in our RE programs. Parent involvement allows our parents to actively participate in their child's religious education, as well as keeping costs down. There are many options to choose from. Please see the registration form for a complete list of options. Volunteering your time and talents are great ways to grow in your own faith and show your child you are actively a part of his/her faith formation process.

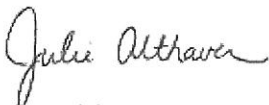
### **PARENT HANDBOOK**

Please carefully read the materials outlined in the parent handbook. We ask you to sign and return the acknowledgement form as a pledge of your covenant with us. We can work together to ensure a safe and enjoyable environment conducive to the religious formation of your child.

### **FINAL WORDS**

St. Cecilia Parish urges all parents to regularly attend Sunday Mass with your child(ren) as an essential part of your religious education and growth in faith formation. We look forward to genuine cooperation with you in communicating Catholic values and teachings to your child. We need to pray together, talk together and plan together. In that way, we draw fully from Sacred Scripture and Church teachings. May God bless us in the work of Catholic educators which we carry on in His name.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Julie Althaver".

Julie Althaver, DRE