

St. Catherine of Siena

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Dear Parents,

Welcome to St. Catherine of Siena Religious Education. Together, we are partners in educating your children in the Catholic faith. We need you to be part of our community; present weekly to encounter the living God in the Eucharist together. We need you to form your children with our assistance. At your Marriage and then again at the Baptism of your child you promised to be the *primary teachers* in the ways of faith. We at St. Catherine's are here to assist you in this great responsibility. Thank you for the trust and confidence you place in us.

Religious Education passes along the truths of our faith through Scripture and the Tradition of the Church. We provide experiences for creating a personal encounter with Jesus Christ. The practice and example of *your* living out the faith is of *equal* importance. You and the parish are two lungs that breathe life into your child's education. If any part is lacking there will be a void in your child's experience. Be models of faith in all that you say and do. Faith is not something we simply do one day a week or on church property only. Our faith is a way of life to be lived in every moment.

Children need to see a connection between what they learn in class and what they experience at home. Be assured that we are available to assist you in whatever way we can. We ask for your active participation in the formation process by living your faith daily by good example. Be good stewards of all that God has given you in time, talent, and treasure. We invite you to join the parish community each Sunday for the celebration of the Eucharist. The Eucharist is the *source and summit* of our faith. Weekly participation in the Eucharist is *essential*. Religious Education without the Eucharist is empty. We need to learn about our faith and then nourished by the Eucharist we can live it out. Sadly, this weekly participation is not the reality. We cannot do it alone. Worshipping together as a community is a *hallmark* of Catholicism. We need you!

I look forward to another year of Religious Education. It is a year of journeying together, growing in the knowledge and love of God, being nourished by the Eucharist and all the sacraments, and becoming the people God has created us to be.

Have a wonderful summer!

Peace,

Fr. Jared