

**Holy Apostles Catholic Religious Education Program Office of Religious Ed.**  
**3008 S. Ruch St., Whitehall, PA 18052** **610-261-0144**  
**HolyApostlesRE@HolyApostlesRE.org**

July 1, 2019

Dear Holy Apostles families,

Thank you for everything you did this past year to instruct your children in the faith – working with you to bring each student closer to Jesus through prayer, sacraments, and study is always a privilege and a joy.

Please note that **most** grades will be offered on all three days this year (Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday), but that we were unable to secure enough catechists to run a full Tuesday session this year. **Grade 3** and **Grade 5** will thus **not** be offered on Tuesdays this upcoming year, unless we can find someone to teach! These two grades have a lower enrollment and should suffer the least from not having a third class option, but I am still sad to have had to cancel them, so if you would like to teach, please call or email me as soon as possible! Both the Tuesday Grade 3 and the Tuesday Grade 5 class would be small (likely 8 students at the most), and you would be provided with a textbook, teacher's guide, detailed schedule, and activity/coloring pages you can use! It is only through God's grace and the generosity of many volunteers that this religious ed. program is able to run every year, and we have been blessed to offer more sessions than almost any other program in our area – with your help, we can keep that going!

This coming school year, we will offer the following classes:

- |                     |                           |  |
|---------------------|---------------------------|--|
| <b>1. Monday</b>    | <b>6:00 pm to 7:15 pm</b> | <b>Years I &amp; II, Grades 3-8</b>    |
| <b>2. Tuesday</b>   | <b>5:30 pm to 6:45 pm</b> | <b>Years I &amp; II, Grades 4, 6-8</b> |
| <b>3. Wednesday</b> | <b>6:00 pm to 7:15 pm</b> | <b>Years I &amp; II, Grades 3-8</b>    |

This past year we finished the second year of our two-year RCIC/RCIT program. This program is a sacramental preparation program for older students, based on the RCIA program for adults. We currently do not have enough interested students to begin running a full RCIC class, but if you have a child who qualifies for this program (entering gr. 4-11, has not received baptism and/or First Penance, First Communion), please contact me! Special arrangements can be made!

**Classes are always filled on a first-come, first-served system based on the time the registration form is received. However, this year, some changes to the registration process are necessary. If at all possible, please return your registration form (with or without payment) no later than 2 pm on July 12th at the Holy Apostles Ed. Center (3008 S. Ruch St., Whitehall). I will be in the office processing registrations right away, and will be able to confirm which class your child is registered for and regularly update our website with which classes are full. If you cannot return your form by then, you will need to drop off or mail your form directly to Holy Trinity Catholic Church (4102 S. Church St., Whitehall), where there will be a substantial delay in processing.**

**Once a class is full, it is closed and no other students are able to join that class, so be sure to fill in a second choice for class time on the form, especially if you are turning it in after July 12. Any registration form returned incomplete (including those submitted without signatures) will be returned and the new date we receive it will be used to decide which class the child will be placed in. If your first-choice class is closed, you will be contacted by phone as soon as possible; otherwise, you can expect to receive your class confirmation via email. Make sure to give us**

your current email address, since most of our communication will be done via email, and don't forget to update us **right away** during the year if your contact information changes! We may contact you using your physical address or phone number at times.

Again, physical registration forms need to be returned (no emailed forms can be accepted). You may send the registration by snail mail or drop it off yourself in the mail slot. If your schedule is tight and you prefer one class option over the other two (or if you have a child in 3<sup>rd</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> grade and only have two options where your children could attend on the same day...or if you have a big family), I highly recommend dropping your form off rather than mailing it. Last year, the two or three day difference between dropping off and mailing forms is often what kept families from being in their preferred class time, as **classes do close within hours of the email being sent out**. Don't wait to get your form in if you can't afford to! This year in particular, the earlier you send in your form, the better – especially if you want an answer quickly!

We are pleased to announce that **tuition fees for the 2019-2020 school year** did not need to be increased and are as follows :

<u>Registration received on/by July 31</u>	<u>Registration received on/after Aug. 1</u>
Year I/Grades 3-5, 7: \$60.00 per child	Year I/Grades 3-5, 7: \$70.00 per child
Grade 6: \$85.00 per child*	Grade 6: \$95.00 per child*
Year II/Grade 8: \$110.00 per child	Year II/Grade 8: \$120.00 per child
There is a <b>family maximum</b> of \$250.00	There is a <b>family maximum</b> of \$300.00

**Please do not postpone registering your child for financial reasons. Return your completed registration as soon as possible – without payment, if necessary – to hold your child's space.** I am also happy to make a payment plan with you if needed.

\*The Grade 6 tuition includes the purchase of the St. Mary's Press The Catholic Youth Bible NAB Revised 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, which will be used in grades 6, 7, and 8. If you already have a Bible your child can use (such as an older sibling's Bible), let us know – your tuition will then be the same as the base tuition. **I also have a few discount Bibles available this year** – I have some 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition Bibles left over from last year that are almost exactly the same as the new Bibles, but have different page numbers. If you are financially unable to afford the 4<sup>th</sup> Edition Bible, I'd be happy to provide you with a discount Bible at half price (bringing your 6<sup>th</sup> grade tuition down to \$72 or \$82 depending on when you register). However, I only have a few of these available, so once they are all sold, I will not have any more available.

Be sure to watch your parish bulletin and our website, [www.holyapostlesre.org](http://www.holyapostlesre.org), for updates on which classes have closed before sending in your registration form – don't forget that it will not be up to date after July 12<sup>th</sup>.

**One more thing:** our attendance policy has been updated this year. After much discussion with catechists and pastors, as well as with the leaders of other religious ed. programs in the area, our attendance policy has been altered to better reflect the expectations of the pastors and of other programs in our area. These changes have been marked in the parent handbook using red text. **Please read over these changes before the fall – they are significant changes.**

Thank you for your continued support of our program. If you have any questions about registration, next year, or the program in general, please let me know soon!

Sincerely,  
*Emily D'Emidio, DRE*