



August, 2017

Re: Welcome to Our Fall Program

I would like to welcome you and your child to St. Catharine's Religious Education Fall Program. This will probably be your child's first exposure to formal religious education. We are very proud of our program and know that your child will be given a fine introduction to his/her faith.

Therefore, we are imploring your help. Prayers are a very important part of everyone's life, and most of us remember learning prayers from our parents/grandparents at an early age.

**Children who are beginning the first grade are expected to have memorized the following, before entering the program:**

- *The Sign of the Cross*
- *The Our Father*
- *The Hail Mary*
- *The Glory Be to the Father*
- *Grace Before Meals*

We have enclosed a special prayer booklet for your child to complete and bring on the first day of class. If this is your child's first exposure to formal prayers, please do your best to help your child learn them and more importantly, to retain the prayers once they are learned.

When your child comes home from class each week, ask about the lessons that he/she learned. This will be a good reinforcement of the weekly lessons, and it also shows the child that you, the parent, are interested in making religion an important part of life.

I also want you to know that first grade is the beginning of your child's preparation for the Sacrament of Eucharist. And since your child is only attending classes once per week, I encourage you to continue working with your child throughout the year by bringing him/her to Mass on Sundays, to continue with their prayers, and encouraging a relationship with their friend Jesus!

I am most grateful to you for your help, and I look forward to meeting you and your child.

Blessings and Peace,

*Dominica Vullo*

Mrs. Dominica Vullo  
Coordinator of Religious Education

## First Grade Prayers

### Sign of the Cross

In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.  
*Amen.*

### The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art  
in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those who trespass  
against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
*Amen.*

### Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace,  
the Lord is with you!  
Blessed are you among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of your womb,  
Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
pray for us sinners, now and at the hour  
of our death. *Amen.*

### Glory Be to the Father

Glory be to the Father,  
and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit.  
As it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. *Amen.*

### Grace Before Meals

Bless us, O Lord,  
and these your gifts,  
which we are about to receive  
from your goodness.  
Through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

