## **GUARDIAN ANGELS CATHOLIC CHURCH**

## Office of Faith Formation

581 East Fourteen Mile Road, Clawson, MI 48017 Telephone (248) 588-5545 Fax (248) 589-7356

August 26, 2019

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

As my daughter approaches her first birthday, it is amazing to watch her grow and learn. I know that children imitate their parents, but it has been incredible to see how much she observes and tries to imitate my wife and me already at this young age. This is especially true when it comes to living out our faith as well. Children can tell if something is important and a priority in our lives. They see the authenticity of how we live. I am in the process of taking a deep look at my own faith and prayer life to see if I am living as an authentic follower of God. Are my priorities in the right place? Do I follow God faithfully and is He the most important person in my life? Do I begin and end each day in prayer? Am I spending time reading the Bible daily or at least weekly? Is Sunday Mass the most important part of my week?

These are really important aspects of living out our faith and following God. Some of these things I can answer with a resounding "yes", and other questions I sheepishly shake my head "no" realizing that I need to work on those areas. I challenge you to answer these questions for yourself. For the questions you can answer with a "yes", keep up the good work! That is wonderful and a blessing to you and your family! If there are some you answer with a "no", try to make it a priority to work on improving on those this year. You might be surprised how God blesses you for your efforts. The gift of faith is one of the most important gifts you give your child. Live it out with them this year and every year! I look forward to working with your children, and you, and am very excited to continue the journey of faith together.

We welcome back our returning families and extend warm greetings to those who join us for the first time. For children in grades 1-8 we meet on Mondays from 6:15-7:30 PM. The Confirmation Program is for students in 9<sup>th</sup> grade and meets a few Sundays beginning September 15th. Please call the office for more information on Confirmation. Students in grades 9-12 are welcome to join the parish youth group. Please call for more information on youth group.

Attached is the registration form for the 2019-2020 year. The in-parish program fee for this year is \$135 for the first child. Each additional child is \$120. The out of parish fee is \$180 per child. There is an additional fee for:

Grade 2 - First Communion Retreat

\$10.00 per child

Grade 6 - Catholic Youth Bible

\$15.00 per child

Please be aware that Guardian Angels Catholic Community subsidizes our Faith Formation Program; 80-85% of the cost of your child's instruction is covered by our operating budget supported through the Sunday collection. Prompt payments are most appreciated. The enclosed Registration Form with a minimum \$25 deposit per child are due by September 9 so that we can adequately staff classrooms and provide the necessary supplies. Outstanding balances from previous years must be paid before registering for this year. Any family with financial hardships is encouraged to bring their concerns to the pastor. We are committed to making every effort to meet the formation needs of our students.

Children new to the Faith Formation Program and NOT baptized at Guardian Angels are asked to furnish a copy of their Baptismal Certificate upon registration. Please advise us if your child was baptized at Guardian Angels; we will obtain the required information from the parish records.

Classes begin on September 23, 2019 in the Church. We request that at least one parent attend the first class to hear important information regarding our program. We begin the first fifteen minutes of every session in Church each week for a reflection on the Sunday Scripture Readings. This time is part of your child's formation and requires conscientious attendance. Parents and siblings are always invited to join us for our opening session. Please know of our prayers for you and your children as we partner in teaching and handing on the gift of our Catholic faith.

In Christ's peace,

Mr. John David Kuhar Director of Faith Formation