

Dear Parish Family:

First of all, I want to say I am looking forward to working with all of your sons and daughters this year in the religious education program at St. Mary's. If you believe your child is ready to receive a sacrament please let me know so we can plan accordingly. Remember, they must be in the program for two years. There will be some extra classes after the first of the year just for those who will be receiving the sacraments.

It is very important that the children actually learn their faith. It is important that they do the work which will help them learn their faith. We had real difficulty in the past with students bring their books to class. Often they did not have the materials necessary to do their work which makes class very difficult. We tried monthly packets last year which was not much better. But we will try again. Each child will get a monthly packet - each month having a different theme. They need to bring their packet for the two classes that month. Then at first class of the new month they will get a new packet for the month.

Since it is that time of the year again, and we have to formalize the paperwork for religious education which the diocese requires.

So at this time we are providing you, as parents, with the following:

- 1). The "Talking About Touching" and "Kid Safety" programs for the children in the diocese have not changed. We are enclosing an acknowledgment that you have been advised of the program, and if you so choose, you can "opt out" of the program.
- 2). The policies and procedures concerning Child Abuse and Civil Harassment. We are enclosing a form which acknowledges that you have been provided these policies.
- 3). The Addendum to the Child Abuse and Civil Harassment Policy has not changed. We are enclosing a form which acknowledges your receipt of the addendum.

4). The "Standards of Conduct for Working with Children" policy has not changed. We are enclosing an acknowledgment that you have been provided with this policy.

It is vitally important that we receive these forms back from each family.

In addition to the pile of documents, you will also find our schedule for the year. It is very important that the children attend each of these classes, and try to be on time. We also ask that outside of our classes, that you try to have the children participate in weekly mass to support what they are learning in class.

Please call me or send an e-mail to let me know if your child is going to participate this year. I need to know numbers to put class materials together.

Thank you for allowing me to spend time with your children!

Margaret
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**2015/16 Catechism Schedule
St. Mary's Parish**

November 1, 2015	Regular Catechism Class Please bring photo of loved one who is deceased For a project.
November 15, 2015	Regular Catechism Class
December 6, 2015	Regular Catechism Class
December 20, 2015	Regular Catechism Class
December 24, 2015	Christmas Eve Mass Special Duties During Mass
December 31, 2015	Trip to St. Vincent de Paul
January 10, 2016	Regular Catechism Class After Mass - Additional Class for Sacraments
January 31, 2016	Regular Catechism Class
February 7, 2016	Regular Catechism Class After Mass - Additional Class for Sacraments
February 28, 2016	Regular Catechism Class
March 6, 2016	Regular Catechism Class After Mass - Additional Class for Sacraments
March 20, 2016	Palm Sunday Brunch - Catechism Helpers
March 27, 2016	Easter Sunday Special Duties During Mass
April 17, 2016	Regular Catechism Class After Mass - Additional Class for Sacraments
May 3, 2016	Regular Catechism Class After Mass - Additional Class for Sacraments
May 8, 2016	May Crowning Come at 10:30 am
June 5, 2016	Regular Catechism Class
June 12, 2016	Family Picnic

Regular class is on Sunday morning at 10:00 am at St. Mary's.
The family is asked to attend church following the class as a family.
All students who anticipate receiving any sacraments
need to consult with Father and the instructors.

Extra classes for children receiving Sacraments
are directly after Mass.

Archdiocese of San Francisco
St. Mary's Church, Nicasio
Talking About Touching (Pre K to 3rd Grade)
Kids Safety (4th to 8th Grade)
2015 - 2016

I, _____ parent of _____
acknowledge that I have been provided information on the programs which are
offered as part of my child's religious education at St. Mary's Parish including
the "Talking About Touching" program and the "Kid's Safety" program.

Dated: _____

If you choose to not have your child participate, then sign the following:

I _____ have a child in the catechism class at
St. Mary's Parish in Nicasio. My child is _____ and
he/she is in grade _____.

I have reviewed the information about the program "Talking About
Touching" and "Kid Safety" from the Committee for Children. I have decided
to "opt out" of the program and do not want my child to participate.

Dated: _____

Archdiocese of San Francisco
St. Mary's Church, Nicasio
Policies and Procedures Regarding
Child Abuse & Harassment
Addendum to Child Abuse & Civil Harassment Policy
Standards of Conduct for Working With Children

2015 - 2016

I, _____ parent of _____
acknowledge that I have been provided a copy of the Archdiocese of San
Francisco's Policies and Procedures Regarding Child Abuse and Harassment,
the Addendum to those policies, and the Standards for Those Working With
Children and Young People.

Dated: _____