

# OLSS RELIGIOUS ED NEWSLETTER



OLSS K-8 PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWSLETTER

FALL 2016

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## A NOTE FROM THE OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Dear OLSS R.E. Families,

As we begin this new year of religious education, please be assured that both staff and catechists at Our Lady Star of the Sea Religious Ed program are dedicated to helping your child(ren) grow in faith and a deeper relationship with our Lord Jesus. You are the **BEST** teacher for your child(ren). Your devotion to God, and participation in Mass allows the grace to flow through each of us. If there is anything we can do to assist, please let us know.

I'd like to thank all families for their cooperation, patience and understanding with registration, Flipped Classroom implementation, and providing liability forms and required documents. Your child's safety is among one of our #1 priorities.

We hope a quarterly Newsletter helps the lines of communication to keep you informed of events happening in Religious Ed. Please let us know what you think.

† **EMAIL:** The email "Blitz" is soon to be over. We are in the process of updating our email distribution list and want to ensure emails are received, and addresses are updated as needed. If you have not received an email, it was either kicked back or our call to you was not answered. Please provide updated email addresses, as this is one of our main means of communication.

- † **YEAR OF MERCY:** In this **Jubilee Year of Mercy**, as the church we have been focusing on Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. During the month of **October**, we are asking students in all grades to practice **Corporal Works of Mercy (Feed the hungry, cloth the naked)**. During the next **2 Sundays**, as a Parish Community, we will be collecting items for Birthright. More information about Birthright and their ministry can be found on the back side.
- † **OCTOBER CATHOLIC IDENTITY CHALLENGE** - Pray the Rosary and support Life - From Conception to Natural Death. Please watch for additional upcoming events and challenges.
- † **VOLUNTEERS:** We are in need of Adult Aides and substitute Catechists. This is a great way to grow in the Catholic Faith and a deeper involvement with your child's religious education.



*Be kind and merciful. Let no one ever come to you without coming away better and happier. BE the living expression of God's kindness  
- St. Teresa of Calcutta*

## WHAT IS BIRTHRIGHT?

The essence of Birthright is love. Birthright is unique and committed to offering free, non-judgmental help to women facing unplanned pregnancies. Birthright offers love, hope and support to each woman, to help her make a realistic plan for her future and the **future** of her unborn child.

Birthright services are always free, non-judgmental and confidential. Birthright is unique, and available 24/7 through a toll-free pregnancy support helpline (hotline).

Some services BirthRight offers:

- ◆ Non-judgmental, confidential help
- ◆ Free pregnancy tests
- ◆ Maternity and baby clothes
- ◆ Baby Food and Formula
- ◆ Diapers

Referrals to:

- ◆ Medical supports
- ◆ Financial and/or employment resources
- ◆ Housing
- ◆ Legal referrals
- ◆ Education assistance
- ◆ Social assistance
- ◆ Professional counseling

Information on:

- ◆ Pregnancy and childbirth
- ◆ Prenatal development and care
- ◆ Parenting skills, child care, and child safety
- ◆ Career development and/or continuing education
- ◆ Community programs and/or social assistance
- ◆ Adoption



### ITEMS WE ARE COLLECTING FOR BIRTHRIGHT

Diapers (newborn - size 3)  
New Diaper Bags  
Similac Formula  
Baby Shampoo, wipes, lotion, diaper ointment  
Baby Food (stage 1 & 2)  
New or gently used baby clothes (0- 2T)  
Receiving Blankets, crib sheets  
New or gently used baby blankets  
Monetary Donations

## FLIPPED CLASSROOM REMINDERS/SUGGESTIONS

Flipped Classroom allows the students to read at their own pace, with voice over if needed. The program offers a Pre-Test and Post test to help the catechist see what they have learned. The HOPE with Flipped Classroom is to engage the entire family. We suggest the students starts on Monday and not wait until Friday or Saturday night to read chapter and complete homework assigned.

If you have not received a log-on, please call 240-925-3034.

### Contact Us

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<http://olssyouthgroup.com>

## OCTOBER FAMILY CHALLENGE

October is the Month of the Rosary. This month's family challenge is to pray the rosary. If time is not on your side, meditate on one mystery a day.



### WHAT ARE THE HOLY DOORS?

Called a "Porta Sancta," a Holy Door is a special door in a major church (a basilica or a cathedral) that remains closed except during a Jubilee Year. Each of the Four Major Basilicas in Rome have three large doors, and the door on the right is the Porta Sancta.

Rome is the home of the whole Catholic world; it is the Holy City of all Christians. Burdened with their sins, but wishing to be cleansed, pilgrims from all countries approach the four Holy Doors. And behold! When, praying and singing, they walk through these Doors, they gain a plenary indulgence, they are purified." – Dom Albert Hammenstede, O.S.B.

The Church's primary Holy Door is in St. Peter's Basilica. At the close of each Jubilee, this Holy Door is sealed up, along with its key, in brick and mortar. It has remained sealed since 2001. This is the Holy Door that Pope Francis will open on December 8th to inaugurate the Jubilee just like his predecessors.