

CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

111 High Street, Westerly, Rhode Island 02891
Office of Catechetical Instruction
Rev. Giacomo Capoverdi, Director – Mrs. Catherine Kimmel, Coordinator
401.596.0900

November 14, 2013

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We **will not offer** Advent and Penance services for our Religious Education students during scheduled classes. **All students** in Grades 3 – 8, especially the Sacramental Preparation Candidates, in Grades 7 & 8 are being asked to use Confession vouchers again this year. As Catholics we must fulfill our obligation by going to Confession at least once during the Advent Season and at least once during the Lenten Season. For this reason we are asking that all parents bring their child/children to Confession at their leisure. We also ask that you bring your child to Confession at Immaculate Conception Church, **only**. Please complete the voucher with the child's name and date of the Confession and place it in an envelope. Due to privacy, the child's name does not need to be written on the outside of the envelope. Once the priest has heard the child's Confession, have the child slip the envelope under the confessional door. Fr. Capoverdi will bring it to the office to ensure proper record keeping. Confessions are offered every Saturday and also during the week. Please check the church bulletin and website for days and time. You may also call the rectory and have the child's confession heard in private, face to face.

For your information, the **Advent Season** begins on *Sunday, December 1, 2013* and ends on *Tuesday, December 24, 2013*. The **Lenten Season** begins on *Ash Wednesday, March 5, 2014* and ends on *Holy Saturday, April 17, 2014*.

Please note that this is a requirement for all Religious Education students in Grades 3 – 8, only. Grade 2 will receive the Sacrament of Confession Saturday, April 12, 2014 as a class; therefore they do not have to use a voucher.

If you have any questions, please call me at the Religious Education Office, 401.596.0900. May God bless you and your family.

Sincerely,



Mrs. Catherine Kimmel, Coordinator of Religious Education.

HOW TO GO TO CONFESSION

(You may bring this paper in the confessional with you for help with the procedure and prayers.)

- 1. Go into the confessional and kneel down.**
- 2. Greet the priest and make the sign of the cross while saying "In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**
- 3. Then say, I confess to almighty God and to you Father, that I have sinned, it has been ... (how long) ... since my last confession. I have confessed my sins, received absolution and said my penance. I accuse myself of the following sins.**
- 4. At this time, state your sins to the priest:**
- 5. After you have stated your sins, wait for the priest to speak to provide, correction, constructive help about your sins and pious thoughts of encouragement of God's love and mercy.**
- 6. The priest will give you penance and ask you to pray the Act of Contrition; you will say the following: Act of Contrition**

**O my God I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee.
And I detest all of my sins, because I dread the loss of Heaven and the pains of Hell; but most of all because I have offended Thee my God, who art all good and deserving of all of my love. I firmly resolve, with the help of Thy Grace, to confess my sins to do penance and to amend my life. Amen.**
- 7. Wait for the priest to give you absolution. As he is absolving you of your sins,
Bless yourself, by making the sign of the cross.**
- 8. Thank him and leave the confessional.**
- 9. Go out to the white marble rail, kneel down, and say your penance prayers given to you. Do this immediately after leaving the confessional.**

PENANCE VOUCHER

ADVENT SEASON

NAME: _____

GRADE: _____

DATE: _____

When done with your Confession, place the voucher in an envelope and slip the envelope under the confessional door

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PENANCE VOUCHER

LENTEN SEASON

NAME: _____

GRADE _____

DATE: _____

When done with your Confession, place the voucher in an envelope and slip the envelope under the confessional door.