PENTECOST SUNDAY 05/15/16
Rev. Adrian McHugh, Pastor
Rev. Charles Omotu
Rev. Francis Agyeman
Deacon Bernard F. Sherlock

RECTOR OFFICE
2320 Bedford Avenue, Bellmore, NY 11710
516-785-0054 Fax: 516-221-7789
Monday - Thursday: 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM;
Friday: 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM;
(Closed Weekdays: 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM)
Saturday & Sunday: 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM
Emergency Only: 516-280-0359

MASS TIMES
Monday to Friday: 6:30 and 9:00 AM
Saturday: 8:00 AM Vigil: 4:30 & 7:00 PM
Sunday: 7, 9, 10:15, 10:30 AM, 12 Noon & 5PM

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Regional School
Principal, Ms. Leeann Graziose 516-785-5709

St. Barnabas Christian Formation
Mrs. Marjorie Lampert 516-785-0130

Social Ministry
Mrs. Alice Witt 516-785-6243

Music Ministry
Mr. William R. Dione
Youth Ministry
Mrs. Margaret Harnisch
Pastoral Care
Sister William Noreen Reilly, S.C.
Business & Personnel
Mr. John G. Nappi

www.stbarnabasny.org Find us on Facebook
Monday, May 16
6:30 AM  Lidka Zaremba
9:00 AM  Sheila Reeves
         Martha Becker
         Joan Kroski
         Intentions of Mary Keeler
         Intentions of Eileen Murray

Tuesday, May 17
6:30 AM  Antionette Celentano
9:00 AM  Mary Faiella

Wednesday, May 18
6:30 AM  Stella Napolitano
9:00 AM  James Leahy

Thursday, May 19
6:30 AM  Evelyn Sherman
9:00 AM  Stephen Andrew Clifford

Friday, May 20
6:30 AM  Walter Eisenhardt, Sr.
9:00 AM  Daniel Finn
3:30 PM  **Wedding:** Jason Rodriguez & Sarah Gochez

Saturday, May 21
8:00 AM  Carol M. Chiasera
         James Spillane
         James Fogarty
         James Francis Bonfandio
         Phyllis Calaprice
         Elizabeth Salvetti
         For the Intentions of Alberta Splescia
         ~ 90th Birthday
Fr. Adrian  7:00 PM  Marie D’Avanza

Sunday, May 22 The Most Holy Trinity
Fr. Adrian  7:00AM  Margaret Quinn
Fr. Joe    9:00AM  For the People of Our Parish
Fr. Charles 10:15AM  Thomas Brian Ferris
Fr. Adrian 10:30AM  Charlie & Ann Klika
Fr. Joe    12:00 PM  Catherine Gentilella
Fr. Charles  5:00 PM  Vincent DiCanio

We pray for our recently deceased
Mary Irene Borowiec
George Albrecht

and for those whose
anniversaries occur
around this time

May they rest in peace.

**Bread & Wine**
The Eucharistic Bread &
Wine will be offered in
memory of Chester
Lemanski from his wife and
family.

The Sacrament of Baptism is
celebrated on the second,
third and fourth Sundays of
the month. The Baptism
Class is held in the Church on
the first Tuesday of the
month at 7:00 PM. Please
contact the rectory for an
appointment with a priest.

The Sacrament of
Reconciliation is celebrated
on Saturday from 12:30 PM
to 1:30 PM or by
appointment.

For the Sacrament of
Matrimony contact the
rectory for an appointment
with a priest.

The Sacrament of Anointing
of the Sick is celebrated on
the fourth Saturday of every
month following the 8:00
AM Mass. To arrange a visit
to a sick person by a priest,
contact the rectory.

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contact the rectory.
Mass Times

Last January we voted to change Saturday Mass to 4:30 PM & 7:00 PM. At that time we said we would revisit this decision in May. Today we will hold a Pew Vote to decide if we want to continue with these times.

First Communion Pictures

Congratulations to all those receiving First Communion during May. Please email us a picture of your First Communion Day to publish in the St. Barnabas bulletin. Send to Bulletin11710@aol.com

PENTECOST

The Easter season lasts for fifty days, ending with Pentecost (Greek pentekoste, "fiftieth"). Ranking second only to Easter, the feast of Pentecost must be understood in the context of the Jewish feast by the same name. Its other name in Jewish tradition is Feast of Weeks, a full season of seven weeks of thanksgiving beginning with Passover Sabbath (see Tobit 2:1; 2 Maccabees 12:32). This prolonged festival celebrated the theme of harvest and thanksgiving. It evolved before the time of Christ into a memorial of the covenant and, by 300 CE., a memorial of the giving of the Law.

By the end of the 2nd century, Christians were observing a similar fifty-day festival of rejoicing after the annual Pascha. People prayed standing, and fasting was prohibited. It seems that originally the followers of Jesus continued to observe the Jewish festival, a time of ‘first fruits’ (see 1 Corinthians 16:8, 15:20, 23) rather than a distinctly new theme. During these weeks, fasting and kneeling were forbidden because of the joyful experience of resurrection.

By the late 4th century, the feast of the Ascension was celebrated in some parts of the church on the fortieth day after Easter (see Acts 1:3, 9-11). Originally, this mystery of the ending of Jesus' visible presence among his followers seems to have been observed as part of the outpouring of the Spirit on the 50th day, or Pentecost. For the first time, the original 50-day festival was broken.

Pentecost itself closes out the Easter season. It celebrates the overwhelming experience of God pouring out the Spirit upon the first community of those who believed Jesus was the Lord and Christ (see Acts 2:1-4). Pentecost is called, therefore, the birth of the church or the birth of the church's mission. The color of vestments and decorations for Pentecost is red. It symbolizes the intense love and fire of the Holy Spirit.

Other symbols of the Pentecost event are the dove (see Luke 3:21-22), the tongues of flame (see Acts 2:1-4), and wind (see Acts 2:2).
A young man came to the door of a monastery with a big, fat duck in his arms. His uncle, who happened to be one of the monks, answered the door. ‘Here, Uncle, is a gift for you and the other monks.’ Well, Uncle Bartholomew took the duck and plucked it, stuffed it, basted and baked it and the brothers lived high on the hog that night.

Several days later, another knock came on the monastery door. ‘Hello? I am a friend of the nephew who brought you the big, fat duck. I’m a bit down on my luck, and I wonder if I might impose on you for a bite to eat and a place to sleep for the night?’ ‘Of course you can, my son, you are most welcome here.’ So that night, he joined the monks for warm duck soup.

A few days later, another knock. ‘Halooooo! I am a friend of the friend of the nephew who brought you the duck. Could I impose on you for a bit of hospitality?’ He too was welcomed . . . more duck soup.

A few more days went by. Another knock. ‘Hi, I am a friend of the friend of the friend of the nephew who brought you the duck.’ That night at dinner he was presented with a steaming hot bowl of water. He tasted it, looked up, perturbed. ‘What’s this?’ ‘This?’ said Brother Bartholomew, ‘Oh this,’ ‘Why this is the soup of the soup of the soup of the duck that my nephew brought.’

Practically speaking, second-hand, third- or fourth-hand faith can end up being pretty watered down. Living by the faith of the faith of the faith that our parents once had, or that we once learned in religion class as children, but left inactive as adults, can become pretty bland and tasteless over the years.

Faith has to be practiced or else it sort of dies off. It can seem more an empty ritual — like a couple still married, still polite but who haven’t had a meaningful conversation in fifteen years.

This is precisely what Pentecost addresses. When Pentecost happens, once the breeze of the Spirit blows through our life, we will never be quite the same again. The Nicene Creed says that the Holy Spirit is ‘the Lord and Giver of Life.’ That means that anytime the Spirit is around renewal happens. When the earth was still shapeless and dead, the Spirit brooded over it and creation happened. To those gathered on the Day of Pentecost, the mighty wind of the Spirit swept through the room and empowered them to change the world. When the Spirit begins to breathe upon us - renewal and spiritual rebirth happens. With the Spirit, coming from beyond our abilities and talents, coming to us from outside of ourselves, every day becomes an opportunity to be saturated by the Breath of God.

What is the Spirit's wind like in your life right now? Still as a summer night? A few little gusts? Howling? Full sail? Dead calm? Look up and wait for the mighty wind of the Spirit. Are you like the disciples, hiding in the Upper Room, yet, deep down inside you’re looking for something more? Invite the Lord and Giver of Life to your house.

Pope John 23rd began Vatican II with a simple prayer. He prayed, ‘Come, Holy Spirit and renew us as by a new Pentecost.’ Let that prayer be our prayer to God. ‘Come, Holy Spirit and saturate our lives with the mighty wind of your Spirit.’ Not once, twice, or three times, but a thousand times in our life.
### Financial Reports

**Weekend Collections**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5/10/15</td>
<td>$14,647</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/08/16</td>
<td>$18,224</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Parish Families Registered: 4,981
Envelopes Mailed: 1,494 Used: 620
Envelopes Used 5/10/15: 544

**2016 Catholic Ministries Appeal**

Goal: $107,900 Donors: 476
Pledged: $108,194 Received: $73,795.75

**Second Collection This Weekend**

Maintenance & Repairs

**Protecting God’s People**

We are the eyes and ears of the outreach of the Church to care for and protect all God’s people. As the signs in the subway say, “If you see something, say something” could well be the motto of our program to care for our children. For your information, the Diocesan Abuse hot line is 594-9063. For information on the USCCB Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People you can contact Mary F. McMahon, LCSW at the diocesan office 678-5800 ext. 573 or our pastor.
We Pray for the Sick
Nicoletta Russo, Meghan Alice Roach, Stephen Rich, Patrick Hoyne, Rosemary Grandwilliams, Barbara Cannon, Lillian Rocco, Pat Simone, Don Davis, Louis Romano, Eugene Ryan, Kristin O’Halloran, Patricia Merget, Mildred Scalesi, Rita Lemma, Donald Grimes, Jacob Daniel Haubeil, Damon Capobianco, Diane LaBianca, Francis G. Noonan, Terri-Ann Clarke, Charlie Riiska, Natalie Martin, Patrick Clarke, Kevin Keegan, Jason Todhunter, John Nalick, Corinne Capozzi, Theresa Anselmo, John C. Hannan Sr., Clarence Anspake, Dr. Lawton Manderson, Terrie Manderson, George Stockerl, Vic Caliguiri, James P. Corliss, Jr., Lucas Spina, Lottie Smakowski, Raffaele Esposito, Joyce Caggiano, Faye Marie Jamison, Charles Young, Nicole & Baby Ella McKernan, Dolores Trimble, Mary Glacken, Kathleen Rathgaber, Betty Dwyer, Jean d’Alessandro, John Bell, Betty Dwyer, June Leahy Furda, Bernice Newman, Christina Sumperl, Joann Santarsiero & Evelyn LaMont

Welcome Home PFC Richard Kelley
**Diocesan Pilgrimage**
As part of the celebration of this Jubilee Year of Mercy, please consider participating in the Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington DC on Saturday, September 24th. For more information on this wonderful event and to reserve a seat on the bus please contact the rectory. If any parishioner is interested in being coordinator for this very special Diocesan event, please contact Fr. Adrian at 785-0054.

**Friendly Seniors**
Join us for our next meeting at 1:00 PM on Tuesday, May 17th in the Holy Family Chapel. All over age 55 are welcome to attend.

**Respect Life Ministry Meeting**
Join us for our next meeting on Tuesday, May 17th at 7:30 PM in the Rectory Meeting Room. For information call Vin Murray at 382-7200.

**Family Ministry**
On the Feast of Corpus Christi Sunday, May 29th, please join us following the 10:15 AM Mass as we offer a short introduction to Eucharistic Adoration for children and their families.

**Curé of Ars**
May Crowning & Procession with the Blessed Sacrament at Curé of Ars, Monday, May 16th at 6:00 PM. Process with the Blessed Sacrament along with the NY State Pilgrim Virgin Fatima Statue and a relic of St. John Vianney. Gather and depart from the Garden of Mercy (use Hewlett entrance to parking lot). If you can’t walk in the procession, you may drive along the procession. The family Mary Crowning Mass will take place after the procession at 7:30 PM.

**Magnificat Breakfast**
Magnificat, a Ministry of Catholic Women, cordially invites you to attend our upcoming breakfast on Saturday, June 4th, the Feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, at The Hofstra Club in Uniondale at 9:45 AM. Our speaker will be Angela Rizzo, foundress and coordinator of our chapter, who will share her amazing journey of faith and how she learned to trust Jesus in all things. The cost is $35 and payment must be received by Saturday, May 28th. Checks should be made payable to Magnificat and mailed to Judy Murphy, 42 Pinehurst Street, Lido Beach, NY 11561. For information contact Judy Murphy at (917)463-5750 or Angela Rizzo at 763-1739.

**St. Vincent de Paul Society**
Today as we celebrate Pentecost, the Holy Spirit wants to make us advocates of God’s presence to bring new life to others. Your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will show that you are indeed the disciple of Jesus.

**Join us for Catholic Pub Trivia!**
Join us on Thursday, June 9th at Lily Flanigan’s Pub 345 Deer Park Avenue, Babylon in the “Upper Room” for some Catholic Trivia! Doors open at 7:00 PM…Game begins at 7:30 PM…Come early have something to eat or drink and get your team ready. Your team can be from 2-5 players. Don’t have a team? Don’t worry about it, come in, meet new friends and “create a team”! Contact Marianne Sheridan at 516-678-5800, ext. 615 or msheridan@drvc.org. Follow us on Instagram Youngadultsdrcv and Facebook https://www.facebook.com/DRVCYA

**World Apostolate of Fatima**
The World Apostolate of Fatima is sponsoring the Fatima Centennial US Tour for Peace. This U.S. tour of the historic International Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Fatima is to commemorate the Fatima Centenary in 2017. Parishes hosting this Tour of Peace are:

- **St. Matthew’s Church, Dix Hills**
  Tuesday, May 24th, 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM
- **St. Agnes Cathedral, Rockville Centre**
  Wednesday, May 25th, 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM
- **Baslica of the Sacred Hearts Southampton**
  Thursday, May 26th, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM
- **Shrine of Our Lady of the Island, Manorville**
  Thursday, May 26th, 4:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Hi Everyone,

Today is Pentecost! Today we hear our last reading from the Acts of the Apostles. Here is where the Holy Spirit descends on the Apostles and they are able to speak and understand in many languages.

For me, one of the most inspiring things that happened is this. Here we have the followers of Jesus. They have learned from him and listened to him. They saw him killed and they saw him appear after the resurrection. They saw him ascend to heaven. What must they have been thinking at this point? I’m thinking they were probably a bit confused and afraid. Maybe thinking “What do we do next?”

It amazes me that this small group of followers went on to be able to spread the word of God until now there are over one billion Catholics in the world and billions of Christians in all.

We know the Holy Spirit is responsible for this. The Holy Spirit gave each of them exactly what they needed to go into the world and make more disciples. So if the Holy Spirit can do this for them, what does that mean for us? For teens I think it means that if you pray for the help of the Holy Spirit, you will make the right decisions in life. It’s true for all of us really. Maybe it’s a choice of going with one group of friends or another group that you know may not do the right thing. Maybe at this time of year it’s knowing whether to study or hang out with friends. The Holy Spirit will help us uphold our Catholic Virtues and live our faith fully! Have a blessed week!

Peggy

Join us Friday, May 20th from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM! We’ll start with games both outside and in the gym! We’ll have a party to celebrate the birthday of the Church! Come check us out! Open to Middle School kids and High School kids will be leaders!

Some changes in Religious Education!

Levels 5 and 6 will be held 4:30 PM – 5:30 PM on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday.

Level 7 and 8 will be held 7:15 PM – 8:30 PM Holy Family Chapel on Wednesday or Thursday.

Adult Volunteers are needed to be Catechists, Substitutes, Hall Monitors and Attendance/Lobby Aides starting in the Fall. Call the office to get more information.

Many thanks to all those who paid their fees. We still have $17,000 in outstanding fees for this year. Credit cards are accepted.

First Holy Communion Rehearsal Information:

Rehearsals are in the Church.
A parent or guardian MUST stay for the rehearsal.

First Communion on Saturday, May 21st at 11:00 AM
Rehearsal on Wednesday, May 18th at 4:30 PM

First Communion on Saturday, May 21st at 2:00 PM
Rehearsal on Wednesday, May 18th at 6:00 PM

Confirmation Monday, May 23!

Confirmation Rehearsal starts in Holy Family Chapel
Sponsor should be at rehearsal.
If not, a parent must stand in for them.

10:00 AM Confirmation Rehearsal, Tuesday, May 17th at 6:00 PM

2:00 PM Confirmation Rehearsal, Tuesday, May 17th at 7:45 PM
Monday, July 25th to Friday, July 29th
9:15 AM – 12:45 PM

Adult Volunteers Needed

- Decorating committee.
- Committee to help with Skits of the lesson each day.
- Leaders for small camp groups, snacks, crafts.
- Outdoor recreation, music, general helpers.
  Contact Margie at 785-0130

Registration

Find Registration & Photo Release forms on the Religious Education Website.
Go to stbarnabasny.org  Click on Religious Education listed on the left.  Click on “more…” to get
VBS forms.

- There are 90 spaces available.
- Campers are placed in order of completed, paid registration forms - first come, first placed.
- To place a child we must receive the completed registration form (one per child), the photo release
  form (one per family) and check for the VBS fee ($75 per camper).
- Please do not fax forms as we must have the payment to reserve the campers spot.
- All questions to Religious Education Office at 785-0130.
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
Regional Catholic School

Where we “LIVE” with Respect, Responsibility & Reverence
Please visit our website at www.steas.com for all our news and current events

7th Annual WALKATHON

Thursday, May 17

All students from grades nursery through 8th grade, sponsored by family and friends, will walk to raise money to support our school.

All are invited to cheer on the students as they cross the finish line!
If you are able to help out please contact:
Stephanie Peck: realphone1129@gmail.com
Anthony Eremitaggio: anthony0479@gmail.com

May 16th – Band & Glee Club Concert ~ 7pm in the Thomas Reynolds Gymnasium

May 20th – Field Day ~ K-8th grade at Hofstra University (All are welcome)

May 26th – May Crowning ~ 2nd grade hosts Mass ~ Communion Breakfast Talent Show ~ 7pm in the Thomas Reynolds Gymnasium
Come on down for another great day in the park! First hundred registered get a shirt!

4th Annual Charity 5K Run/Walk
Saturday - June 18, 2016 - 10:30 AM
Newbridge Road Park, Bellmore

This Charity Run will benefit **The Thomas Reynolds Foundation, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Regional School & Special Spaces**


- **$20** Pre-Registration Fee due by June 1, 2016 ($30 day of race if available)
- Race check-in 9:00 am to 10:00 am
- Make checks payable to **The Thomas Reynolds Foundation**
- Mail registrations to – **Special Spaces, 128 Linden St., Bellmore NY 11710**
  Race Contact – **Kathy Whelan at tkbadw@aol.com**

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~RACE APPLICATION FORM~
(PLEASE PRINT)

Name:______________________________________________________________________________
Address:____________________________________________________________________________
City/State/zip:_______________________________________________________________________
Daytime Phone(_____)_____________ Sex______ Age:________ E-mail_____________________

Mandatory Release Form:
I know that running a road race is a potentially hazardous activity and I assume all risks associated with running in this even, including but not limited to change in running surfaces, falls, contact with other participants or spectators, the effect of weather including cold, heat, snow and ice, traffic and the conditions of the road, all such risks being known and appreciated by me. Therefore, in consideration of your accepting this entry, I , the undersigned intending to be legally bound hereby for myself, my heirs, executors and administrators waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against Newbridge Road Park, Thomas Reynolds Foundation, SEAS and Special Spaces, their representatives, successors and assigns for any and all injuries suffered by me in said event and all claim for liabilities of any kind arising out of my participation in this event though liability may arise out of the negligence or carelessness on the part of the persons named in this waiver. I attest and verify that I will participate in this event as a foot race entrant and that I am physically fit and have sufficiently trained for the competition of this event and that my physical conditions have been verified by a licensed medical doctor. Further, I grant full permission to any and all of foregoing to use any photographs, video tapes, motion pictures, recordings, or other records of this event for any legal purpose whatsoever. In the event that an act of God necessitates the cancellation of the race, I understand that an alternate date will be rescheduled. No refunds available. If signed by a parent. The parent agrees to release and hold the above organizations and persons harmless of any claims and/or rights which may be asserted on behalf of the entrant.

Signature___________________________________    Parent/Guardian signature_________________________________
Last weekend at all Masses the parish community welcomed and prayed for the 2016 Candidates for Confirmation. During their Rite of Enrollment these young people presented letters requesting the Sacrament on May 23rd and shared in the letter how they live the life of a disciple of Jesus.

Here are some of their reflections. Reading them confirms our faith in these amazing Eighth Graders.

In preparation for the Sacrament they were asked to give service by participating in service work. This service was to be performed freely and willingly. No hours are tracked. It is meant to represent the candidates’ intentions of becoming full members of this servant community, the Church, and dedicated followers of Christ.

- “I believe that prayer and going to Mass is important because it helps me have a close and personal relationship with God.”
- “I also have helped out at nursing homes and helped the sick.”
- “The one sacrament that stands out to me is my Communion. It was a beautiful ceremony and I felt a sense of belonging to the church and it was great to receive communion with my parents after.”
- “Over the years, going to church and praying has only made my faith stronger even if at times it was hard work. I always worked as hard as I could to make sure I made faith a priority.”
- “So far, we have helped children with Down Syndrome, the homeless, and premature babies.”
- “I have volunteered my time by helping my little brother’s baseball team, and by showing them the correct way to play.”
- “I volunteered at a nursing home a met a woman who had broken her hip. She talked about her life before she broke her hip and her plans for New Years. We played cards and talked a lot. She made me laugh and I really enjoyed my time with her.”
- “I used my talents of leadership, organization, cooperation and encouragement with the members of the yard clean up.”

On Pentecost day the apostles spoke a new language.

What was this new language?

It was the language of peace rather than of war;
the language of cooperation rather than of competition;
the language of forgiveness rather than of vengeance;
the language of hope rather than of despair;
the language of tolerance rather than of bigotry;
the language of friendship rather than of hostility;
the language of unity rather than of division;
the language of love rather than of hate.

Through the gift of the Spirit, people of different languages learned to profess one faith, to the praise and glory of God.

That is the real miracle of Pentecost, and it is a miracle which, thankfully still happens.
• “I enjoyed helping my mom with my baby brother and tutoring a little boy who has difficulties in school.”

• “For my service project I spent the day helping set up a walk on Jones Beach to raise money to fight Autism.”

• “I visit a friend of the family who is in and out of hospitals and each time I visit her she is so excited.”

• “I made a promise that I would volunteer at the John Theissen Children’s Foundation this coming summer.”

• “I am ready to take my faith seriously, to become active in my parish and live out my faith through service.”

• “I know that I can serve God by helping others and treating them as I want to be treated.”

• “I volunteered at an animal shelter which taught me that all living beings should be cared for and respected, especially those that cannot take care of themselves.”

• “I want to take my religious life in my own hands and build upon it by myself. I have been preparing for Confirmation through prayer, through my religious education. Confirmation for me means I can now take ownership of my faith, and now as a full member of the church I can live out my faith.”

• “I believe in the power of prayer, and that God has a plan for me.”

• “I felt like I was helping others, like Jesus helped others.”

• “Receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation will complete my Sacrament of Baptism as well. I used to think that if I didn’t get what I wanted I couldn’t be happy, but the experience in my Catholic teachings helped me mature.”

• “It is important to go to Church so you can learn more about Jesus and the faith that we have and how to be guided through life and obstacles like Jesus would.”

• “Through the service of making and giving sandwiches to the homeless I see what I have and I appreciate it more.”

• “I think all the projects and all the Masses I attended brought me closer to God.”

• “I volunteered to be a counselor at bible study as my community service project.”

• “Receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation is an amazing way for me to enhance my relationship with God.”

• “I would love to get confirmed because it would mean I am an adult Catholic in the eyes of God and I can go to Church because I want to, instead of being forced to go.”
• “I know I will need to attend Church every Sunday and make sure to come for confession whenever I feel troubled about something I did.”

• “To be confirmed would be the ultimate gift.”

• “It enables my mind to realize that I am on my own to keep a healthy and powerful closeness with God. It is now my duty to continue to have faith, to believe, to pray, to go to Church.”

• “Praying and attending Mass on Sundays, gives me a great feeling about being Catholic and I look forward to spreading Jesus’ word by singing in the youth choir.”

• “To follow the Golden Rule that Jesus has taught us, which is to “Love thy neighbor as thyself.”

• “I believe that prayer, attending Mass each Sunday and Christian service is an indispensible part of being confirmed Catholic because it shows your faith and your love towards God. I also believe that the Holy Spirit is something that we should hang onto because it shows our connection to God. The “sealing” in the Spirit at Confirmation does keep you with God forever, it “seals” you with the Holy Spirit.”

• “Volunteering at Vacation Bible School helped me think about my Faith and about being a Catholic and a good role model.”

• “I enjoyed helping the kids because I felt that it brought me closer to God.”

• “I will continue to pray, go to Mass, and carry the rosary with me everywhere I go.”

• “My service project was volunteering at Vacation Bible School at St. Barnabas. It was a special week that was fun and also allowed me to share my faith with them.”

• “Praying makes me calm down and helps me not to worry as much.”

• “I believe that praying, attending Mass each Sunday and being a good person is part of being a good Christian.”

• “Many people who stayed there were not visited much. Keeping them company for a few hours made me feel appreciated. It brought me closer to God because I was comforting those in need.“

• “Not only will Confirmation allow me to become an adult in our church, but it will allow me to also become a role model for the youth of our community. I like to help people, even if it is something small just to be able to put a smile on someone's face makes me feel good about myself.”

• “I altar serve at mass. I also do a lot of community service with the Knights of Columbus at Church and town events. I will follow the path to goodness and live life as a Catholic.”

• “I enjoy helping others and as part of my service project in 7th grade I volunteered my time at the snack shack at Wantagh High School.”

• “In the past, I have given food to the needy, protected my peers who were being bullied, shoveled snow for my elder neighbors and have volunteered my time in many community events.”
EXPERTS’ ADVICE

No one knows a child like their parents. Therefore, no one can lead a child to Christ like their parents. Leading the child to Christ is, in fact, a parent’s primary job. But that job becomes increasingly difficult as a child grows. Telling a 4-year-old that Jesus loves them is easy. Answering a 16-year-old’s hard questions about the Church’s teachings on love, sex, and God is decidedly less so.

That may be one reason why the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate found that 45 percent of Catholic teens say their parents rarely or never talk with them about faith. (And why another 27 percent say their parents talk about it less than once a week.)

But while raising faithful teens may be difficult, it’s far from impossible. Here, Catholic youth ministers offer some dos and don’ts for parents looking to engage their child more fully in the faith of their baptism.

DO ...

... be understanding

“You’ve got to at least try to see things from their vantage point. If you don’t do that, you’re behind from the beginning. You’ve set them up to dismiss you. It’s important to approach discussions in a way that respects them and treats them with dignity.”

— Jim Beckman, the Augustine Institute, Denver

... pray

“Be prayerful throughout the entire process. Call upon saints like Monica, who prayed heroically for St. Augustine’s conversion. And if your child is struggling, give thanks that it’s happening at home, where you can engage in these conversations with them. You’re blessed to have that opportunity. Many parents don’t get that.”

— Brian Kissinger, St. Mary of Sorrows Catholic Church, Fairfax, Va.

... talk about Sunday Mass

“Ask them what they thought about the Gospel or homily. Share your thoughts, too — what you liked or what challenged you. And don’t accept generic answers. If they say they don’t understand something, ask them to whom they need to be nice or what they could do to be a nicer person. Require them to reflect on the specific actions they need to take.”

— Christopher Bartlett, St. William Catholic Church, Round Rock, Texas

... have family dinners

“Sit down at a table, put the cell phones away, turn off the television and eat together for 30 minutes a day. So many parents and teens are disconnected from one another, and lots of teens’ issues remain unnoticed because there’s not enough regular interaction with the adults in their lives. Family meals are important in connecting that.”

— Alison Griswold, St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, Panama City, Fla.

... share your spiritual journey

“Live the faith in a way that’s transparent. Be a good witness and talk openly with your children, in an age-appropriate way, about how you became a disciple of Christ, about what you struggled with and how you still struggle, but why you keep choosing to follow Christ. Share your story as a way of inviting them to go deeper in their faith.”

— Jim Beckman

... pray together

“The family Rosary is a great place to start, but don’t stop there. It’s important for parents to share with their children what they’re praying about, what they’re struggling with, what they’re sharing with the Lord, and what he’s saying back.”

— Jim Beckman

DON’T ...

... wait

“Start talking to your children about faith long before the teenage years. The earlier you start talking with them about Jesus and the Church, the easier it will be.”

— Alison Griswold

... neglect your faith life

“You can’t give what you don’t have. Nurture your prayer life and your spiritual life first, then allow that to flow into your family life.”

— Christopher Bartlett

“If you’re uncomfortable sharing your faith because you don’t feel your faith is strong enough, then that’s your first step. Get stronger. Go to a Bible study, read, pray — that’s what will help your children.”

— Angela Gaughan

... let them skip Mass

“You would never let your child not get out of bed in the morning or not eat simply because they said they didn’t want to. The same goes for Mass. It’s okay to require your children to attend Mass as long as they live at home. Even better, plan your family’s week around Sunday Mass. Teach them its importance by not letting anything — games or practices or work — interfere.”

— Alison Griswold

... preach

“You can’t impose faith. You can only propose it. Sometimes, the best place to start is by poking holes in modern philosophy. Ask a lot of questions. Gently lead them to seeing the contradictions.”

— Jim Beckman

... waste the teachable moments

“It breaks my heart to see teens get in their parents’ car, then put their earbuds in. It’s much better to listen to the music together on the radio. Then, after the song, stop it and talk to your child about the song’s message. Use everything — music, television, chores — as an opportunity to talk about the Faith.”

— Christopher Bartlett

... hesitate to call in the cavalry

“If a teenager is really fighting you on some point, nine times out of ten, you’re not going to be the person who helps them find their way through the struggle. So have lots of resources around the house — books, magazines, newspapers — that present the truth. And ask someone else to intervene — a youth group volunteer, family member, or trusted friend. Be creative.”

— Angela Gaughan
Connect the dots.
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P

Match the apostles who are the same.

The people were amazed and asked ...

Circle the words.
WHAT DOES THIS MEAN

L O T H E
J D O E S
K T H I S
M E A N R

Count the 🔥. 11 or 12 ?
Jews from many nations had gathered in Jerusalem for the feast.

Fit the list of ancient places into the boxes. The column beneath the arrow will spell the missing word in the sentence.

Asia  Judea  Mesopotamia  Pontus
Egypt  Libya  Phrygia  Rome

People from ...

... each heard the disciples speaking in his own

____ ____ ____ ____ ____ .

The people were amazed and perplexed at their speech. But some made fun. Peter explained how the disciples were able to speak.

Fit the words into the sentence according to their shapes.

I In all will people
God last the
days My says
on out Spirit pour

Q. What did Adam say on the day before Christmas?  A. It's Christmas, Eve!

Q: How long did Cain hate his brother?  A: As long as he was Abel!

Q: Where is the first baseball game in the Bible?  A: In the Big Inning, Eve stole first, Adam stole second, Cain struck out Abel, and the Prodigal Son came home. The Giants and the Angels were rained out.
Dearest God, Heavenly Father maker of all living creatures, we ask you to bless (name of pet), who brings so much joy into our lives. By the power of Your love, enable him (her) to live according to your plan. May we always praise You for all Your beauty in creation. who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, Blessed are You, God, in all Your creatures!

God will show many wonders before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord.

Find each given letter on an X, then write the letter that appears exactly across from it.

**They heard ...**

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**They saw ...**

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