

ST. BENEDICT
CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL



St. Benedict Catholic Church and School
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June 11, 2018

Dear Grade 5 Parents/Guardians,

Your son/daughter is entering grade 6 in the fall of 2018. We are excited to invite them all to attend the Middle School Youth Groups various events to enhance their faith experience. In addition they are preparing for Confirmation. This is an exciting time for them; we want to give you some information to help you prepare for the next few years.

As part of the Confirmation preparation all students in grades 6, 7, and 8 are required to complete community service hours. Service teaches us to humble ourselves by putting the needs of others before our own. Grade 6 students are required to earn at least 5 hours by the spring of Grade 6. Grades 7 and 8 will be responsible for earning at least 20 hours of service by the spring of grade 8. Students currently in grade 5 can start their community service as soon as possible. Community Service Forms must be filled out and handed in by the due dates. Forms can be found on the website. <https://parish.stbenedictholmdel.org/communityservice>

The St. Benedict Middle School Youth Group is a faith based group for children who are in grades 6, 7, and 8. The main purpose of the Youth Group is to show the children that our faith is alive and that God is fun, exciting, dynamic, and loving. In the youth group we try to cultivate a community that is focused on loving our brothers and sisters, our community, and our God.

Information about the Middle School Youth Group:

- Social Events are planned through the year
 - Game nights, inside the GYM and outside on the fields.
 - Fall BBQ, End of the Year Party.
 - Trips, for example Snow Tubing or Golf.
- Service Opportunities:
 - Bingo with Seniors
 - Coat and Food Drives
 - Altar server or Jr Lector for Mass
 - Help in the Religious Education program
 - RAINE—any project RAINE offers is accepted.
 - St. Vincent DePaul society: help out monthly with the collection of food bags, bake

- goods for the pantry, organize your own food drive.
- Knights of Columbus monthly pancake breakfast
- Handing out bulletins to parishioners after each Sunday Mass.
- Work at any food bank
- Assist seniors with chores in your neighborhood
- Parish Fair -- St. Benedict Catholic Church and School
- Assistance with a PTA/PTO in any school.
- “Light the Candle” a non-profit that makes birthday cards for children in group homes.
Contact
Jordan@lightthecandlenj.com
for more information

- Spirituality Opportunities:
 - Mini Retreats will be offered during Advent and Lent.

In addition to the service requirement for Confirmation the students are expected to know the basics of the faith and be able to articulate the faith. In Grade 6, all students will be given a basic exam on their faith. In Grade 7 they will all complete a Capstone Project and in Grade 8 each candidate will have a one on one interview with a priest. We will guide them in their religion classes on this information.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



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