

St. Francis of Assisi Preschool



September 4, 2020

Hello Preschool Families!

What a wonderful start we have had to our preschool year! Last weekend and this weekend my bulletin articles talk about how our children have already been an example of our preschool theme for this year: “Be a Light”. They have returned to us with giant smiles, lots of laughter, and a joy that has largely been untouched by the difficulties in the world around them at this time. They have been examples of God’s great light in so many ways!

We have been so thankful for not only the return of our beloved students but also for the support that we have received from all of you as we navigate a very different school year. Thank you for being so patient and flexible. We are also very grateful for your conscientiousness in sending your children to school. We appreciate how you are not only taken care of your child but also be mindful of the health and safety of classmates and our greater preschool community. Now more than ever we need your cooperation and consistency so that we can keep our school healthy! To that end, please don’t hesitate to give us a call if you have any questions about whether or not your child should be at preschool. It is much better to be on the safe side!

Although things are going smoothly right now, we want to be as prepared and transparent as possible. Remember that if any health emergency should arise, please know that we will communicate with you as quickly as possible per the guidelines outlined in our re-opening plan/handbook and with the consultation of the diocese and the local health agency. If it becomes necessary for a whole class to quarantine for 14 days, our teachers are prepared to offer some virtual learning as well. In addition, any changes or revisions that become necessary to make to our handbook or re-opening plan, due to the ever-changing nature of the pandemic guidelines, can be found on our preschool website. There is now a [revisions sheet](#) that is available for easy reference.

In addition to resources that can be found on our website, there are also some [mental health resources](#) available that were compiled by members of our church community who specialize in counseling of children. There are not only items related to COVID, but there are references to help with “normal” things such as separation anxiety. Please take a minute to peruse the list; it is quite comprehensive.

As we look towards navigating this year, we ask that you remember to link your Harris Teeter VIC card and Amazon Smile account to our preschool as noted in MiniBits. Also in MiniBits will be links to buy a school t-shirt. You can not only help us raise school spirit, but also earn a small amount in return from your purchase.

Finally, this weekend, you will meet our two new priests if you attend mass in person (see church website for how to sign up to attend either 9:30 or 5:30 mass on Sundays) or watch via the church streaming. Msgr. Clay, our pastor, and Fr. Jairo Maldonado, arrived this week. I have already extended an invitation for them to meet our children while they are outside on the playgrounds. I am confident that our preschoolers will make them feel welcome by sharing some of their “light”.

Thank you again for sharing your beautiful children with us! We know that it will be a good year as God continues to watch over us all.

With Joy,

Heidi

Heidi Hobler, Director

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