

# Religious Education News

## September 19, 2021

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PHYLLIS O'BOYLE

541-270-4909

### Religious Education

School has started, and our children are getting back to a new normal. Masks, social distancing, and temperature checks must seem a little frightening to parents. I suspect some children are adjusting better than adults but others are troubled. This is a good time to have a family discussion about faith in Jesus to protect us from stress and fear. That doesn't mean that earthly problems don't affect our lives; it means that we don't have to live in fear—Jesus is always available to us by turning to him in prayer. During times in my life when I have been stressed and fearful I have found great comfort in turning to Jesus in prayer. I may face hard times but I'm not alone. I can lay all of my fears at Jesus' feet. I can leave the fear with him.

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# Religious Education News

## September 12, 2021

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**PHYLLIS O'BOYLE**

**541-270-4909**

“I’m not giving up!” I stubbornly told Father Joseph. “It’s too important.”

That was my answer when Father Joseph commented that we don’t seem to have any parents interested in enrolling their children in confirmation classes this year.

These are difficult times for all of us. Starting in-person classroom instruction is overwhelming for many. Friends and family may have gotten ill. Junior High School seems overwhelming. Knowing that one has the Peace and Love of Jesus protecting and guiding us is such a blessing. I thank God every day for the gift of my faith. That is why I believe we need to consider confirmation as a two year program this year. We will work on the instruction one step at a time, making sure confirmands are comfortable and confident.

I am really looking forward to teaching the classes, and I am excited to meet parents and their 7th and 8th graders. This will be an exciting and spiritual experience for all of us. It is the culmination of all of the years of religious education classes and a passage into the family of St. Anthony’s Catholic Church.

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# Religious Education News

## September 1, 2021

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PHYLLIS O'BOYLE

541-270-4909

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*Luke 2: 41-51*

*And every year Jesus' father and mother went to Jerusalem at the time of the Feast of Passover.*

*And when he became twelve-years-old, they went to Jerusalem, according to their custom. Jesus was separated from them.*

*After three days they found Jesus in the temple seated among the wise men listening to them and questioning them.*

*Jesus returned to Nazareth with his parents and he was subordinate to them, and his mother kept all these words in her heart.*

Jesus gave many examples of the importance of teaching children about God and Jesus as our shepherd. When Jesus went to the temple with his parents, he already knew scripture and could interpret their meaning. Who taught him? It seems clear to me that Mary and Joseph taught him all that they knew and that religion was a part of their family life. Yes, he was also divinely inspired. I like to imagine Mary with Jesus at her side as she was saying her prayers. What a beautiful image.

Family worship time is so important. I know your time is filled with work, home, work, and daily life, so I would like to help; I'll send home packets during September while we are waiting for Religious Education to start. I hope they are helpful in your daily prayer routine with your children.

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# Religious Education News

## August 29, 2021

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**PHYLLIS O'BOYLE**

**541-270-4909**

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Due to concerns about Covid exposure for young children, our Religious Education classes will not start until October 3rd. That doesn't mean we will put our children's religious education on hold because it is so important for children to develop a personal relationship with Jesus. In September, I will send home weekly worship suggestions for each child and a fun activity to reenforce the lesson. Please contact me if you would like to be on my list. ([phylliswald@aol.com](mailto:phylliswald@aol.com))

### **CALL FOR TEACHERS!**

I am requesting parents consider assisting with the program by sitting in on the classes occasionally, helping with craft projects, assisting with music during the opening time, and offering other assistance using your skills.

I am still searching for teachers and aides for the classes. I will assist with all classes and offer training, curriculum support, and anything a teacher needs to provide a quality Religious Education Program. Please contact me. Classes will be very small.

“Let the children come to me, and do not prevent them; for the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to such as these.” Mathew 19:15.

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# Religious Education News

## August 22, 2021

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**PHYLLIS O'BOYLE**

**541-270-4909**

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We are currently asking parents of children in grades kindergarten through eighth grade to consider signing their children into Religious Education classes. The classes will begin September 20th and follow the school district schedule and Covid policies. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me.

The Catholic Church has an excellent curriculum (The Life of Grace) that we will use. I think parents and students will enjoy this well-developed curriculum. I believe that RE teachers and parents should work as a team, so I am encouraging parents to get involved with the program. We will need two adults in every classroom, so this would be an excellent way parents could sit in on the class as a helper. We will make a great team!

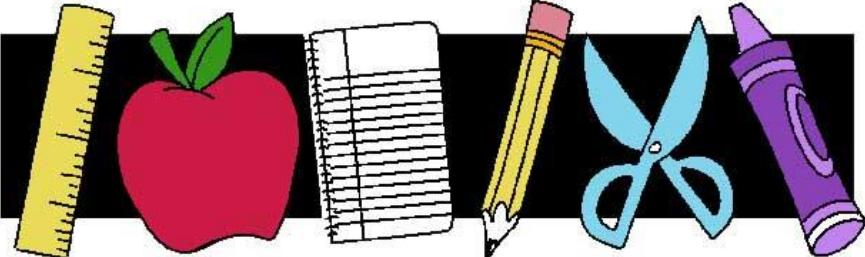
Everything is in place for the RE program...except for students and teachers. Jesus is knocking at the door; please answer the call to come to the table and make this a great year for Religious Education classes and our church's mission to bring the gift of faith to our children. Everyone has something to offer.

Phyllis O'Boyle, Director of Religious Education, [phylliswald@aol.com](mailto:phylliswald@aol.com), 541-270-4909 (please text, and I will call you back.)

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# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



## Welcome to a New Year of Religious Education

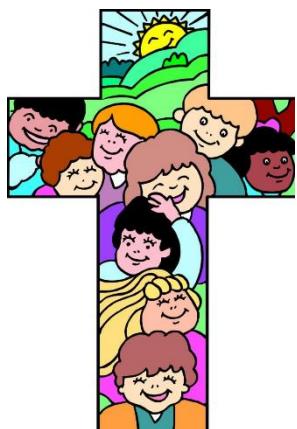
by Phyllis O'Boyle, St. Anthony's Director of Religious Education



I believe the opportunity to develop a relationship with God and a belief that Jesus is our Lord and Savior is the most important gift a parent can give a child. It sets the child up with a support system that will endure for their lifetime. Parents don't always have all the answers to religious questions but if they participate in their children's religious education, they can learn along with their children.

One of my earliest, significant memories is being at the front of the church being baptized at four years old with my parents, my older sister, and my baby sister who cried when she was baptized. My parents made it a priority that their children attend religious education class every [Sunday](#) and complete Confirmation. I did the same for my children. During the worst times of my life (and there have been many rough times), I never felt alone; I had Jesus by my side. I know my children have that comfort, too, and that comforts me when I can't be with them during rough times.

Peter was a "cradle Catholic". He went to Catholic school K-12. His parents sacrificed in order for him to do that; they made it a priority. They went to daily mass in Catholic school. He told me he never had those questions many people have about the reality of God. He grew up with it being as much a part of his life as his family. He enjoyed learning about the Saints and was inspired by their stories.



# ST ANTHONY'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CALENDAR – 2021/2022

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### OBJECTIVE

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To provide education classes and assist parents in education for children in a religious curriculum provided by the Portland Diocese.

It is my belief there is no greater gift a parent can give their child than to provide a quality religious education which gives them the information they need to make a choice to live a Christian lifestyle. A life with Jesus as their Savior. I believe religious education classes are the best way for the Catholic Church to support parents in that mission.

Classes will be held in the parish hall after the 10:00 am Mass on Sundays.

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### OCTOBER -JUNE

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October 3 - First Class

October 3, 10, 17, 24 - class

November 7, 14, 21 - class. (November 27, Thanksgiving Break)

December 5, 12, 19 - class, (December 26, Christmas Break)

January 4, 9, 23, 30 - class, (January 16, MLK Break)

February 6, 13, 20 - class

March 6, 13, 27 - class, (March 20, Spring Break)

April 3, 10, 24 - class, (April 17, Easter Break)

May 1, 8, 15, 22 - class, 29, (May 29, Memorial Day Break)

June 5, 12 - class, 19 - (last class)

## **DIRECTOR PHYLLIS O'BOYLE**

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939 Seabrook Lane, Waldport, Or, 97394, 541(270)4909 text or call E-mail: [phylliswald@aol.com](mailto:phylliswald@aol.com)

- My experience includes many years of teaching religious education, the most recent at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Newport.
- Professionally, I began my career as volunteer for Project Child Find in Grant County in the mid 70's. I traveled the county asking people to vote for the ballot measure 94-142 which mandated Special Education and provided funding. While I was advocating, I was seeking out children with disabilities who were not in school. I went to post offices in small towns and asked if they knew of any children with disabilities. I was told, "We take care of our own, we don't need to send them to John Day for school." However, I persisted and got the information. After the passing of 94-142 I was a Special Education teaching assistant for seven years in a self-contained classroom. Some of the children I had discovered. When my children were old enough I returned to college and earned my teaching credential. I taught public education for over thirty years as a reading, English and Special Education teacher. My first three year's teaching were in Lincoln County Public Schools as a reading specialist and English teacher at Newport High School. I taught one year in Waldport Junior High as a Learning Specialist. We moved to Portland, and I taught at Martin Luther King School for three years. Next, we moved to Palmdale, California where I taught in a Special Education, self-contained classroom, grades 4-6 for three years. Then, we moved to Long Beach, California where I taught Special Education in a self-contained classroom, grades 1-3, for eight years, pre-school, ages 3- Kindergarten for one year before I was promoted to Program Specialist, an administrative position, for two years. Finally, my husband retired, and we moved back to Lincoln County. I taught at Toledo Jr. and Sr. High as a Special Education, learning specialist for 7 years before retiring.
- My credentials include: a BS in Psychology/ BS in Elementary Education ( magna cum laude) at Eastern Oregon University. I earned certifications to teach Reading and Art with my BS. I earned my Master's Degree at Western Oregon University in Special Education. Post graduate, I earned a certification in English as a Second Language (ESL). Post graduate, I earned my School Administration, Tier I, at Azusa Pacific University.