

### **Our Promises to You – Your Commitment to us...**

**Fearless Faith – We are Unapologetically Catholic.** Our faith is living and vibrant and permeates all we are and do. Each part of the Monday night Religious Education is an active response to faith: As catechists we are committed to pray before and even after RE sessions. The catechists pray with the children each time they meet together. Our Catholic faith is interwoven into every aspect of our curriculum, our discipline and our culture. We celebrate throughout the year with visits with Father Jim, Reconciliation, teaching Masses, Sacrament Retreat days and Sacrament celebrations, as well as visits to the Eucharistic Chapel.

**Your Commitment -- Bring your child to Mass on Sundays.**

\*\*\*

**Catechetics -- We are dedicated to providing your children the best possible catechetical and spiritual experience:** We affirm the gifts of each student. We offer open lines of communication between you and your child's catechist, as well as with Patti Reynolds, Director of Faith Formation, and Father Jim Chelich. After your child's Confirmation in 8th grade, it is Father Jim's hope and desire that this is not viewed as "graduation" but just the beginning of their journey in the Church. We offer a weekly Youth Ministry opportunity for high-schoolers so that they are able to continue their faith journey with their peer community here at Saint Thomas. Our Catechists are committed to making sure that they themselves are formed and informed as catechists to help pass the faith along to your child.

**Your Commitment – Ensure that your child attends weekly Monday night Religious Education and that any homework is completed to the best of their ability, and they have opportunities of quiet times of Prayer and Scripture reading.**

\*\*\*

**Peaceful climate – We believe the root of discipline is to “Disciple.”** We teach our students to examine their words and actions in light of their faith and take responsibility to be what God created them to be: We remember Saint Paul's teaching, “Be devoted to one another ...Honor one another above yourselves.” (Romans 12:10). We establish expectations for classroom behavior, and student's conduct from the first night of Religious Education. We catechize and evangelize using approved texts and methods from Saint Mary's Press, the YOUCAT, Decision Point from Dynamic Catholic, and abide by the Diocesan curriculum guidelines from the Office of Catechesis, plus we share our own personal encounters with God.

**Your Commitment – Ensure your child's mind, soul, and heart are ready for each week of learning and sharing.**

\*\*\*

**Empowered Community – We Partner with Our Families.** Parents are their children's first and primary teachers: We welcome and encourage family involvement. We value our volunteers' time, talents, and gifts. **Your Commitment – The more parents are involved in the catechesis and evangelization process, the better their children will do in Religious Education.**

*Thank you for all you do. It is an honor and a privilege to minister to your children!*