**Notes from the DRE.…February, 2023… (Vickie Blackwood…844-9027…Email: sjbreligion@comcast.net or vblackwood@st-johnbosco.org)**

Bosco Mass times: Saturday Vigil 4:00 p.m. and Sundays…7:30 and 10:30 a.m. Weekdays…Weds.- Fri..8:15 a.m.; Tues.-Thurs….5:15 p.m.; Eucharistic Adoration…Tues. 4:00-5:00 p.m. Confessions…Tues…4:00-5:00 p.m. On the 1st Saturday of the Month, Mass is at 8:15 a.m. with the Anointing of the Sick being offered…Adoration is from 7-8:00 a.m. and Confession is also offered from 7:00-8:00 a.m.

Upcoming Parish events will always be noted in the Sunday bulletin and on our Parish Website: www.sjbhammond.org Also check out our Facebook pages: St. John Bosco Youth Group and St. John Bosco Church-Hammond.

**RE Classes:**

**Jan. 29** K-CF II 9:00-10:15 a.m.

**Feb. 5**  K-CF II 9:00-10:15 a.m.

**Feb. 12**  K-CF II 9:00-10:15 a.m.

**Feb. 19** K-CF II 9:00-10:15 a.m./Faith Feeds begins

**Feb. 26** K-CF II 9:00-10:15 a.m./Faith Feeds

**Mar. 5** K-CF II 9:00-10:15 a.m./Faith Feeds

**Please note the following items**:

1. **Sacraments**…our “**Catch Up” classes** **for Reconciliation and Eucharist** have begun. They are held on Thursdays. Our first class, was Thursday, January 26, from 4:30-5:30 p.m. at the School. These classes are for students in grades 3 and up, who are in need of Reconciliation and 4th and up for those in need of Eucharist. Classes meet as follows: **Reconciliation meets Jan. 26-Feb. 2-Feb. 9-Feb 16-Feb. 23. Classes for Eucharist will be held on: Mar. 2-Mar. 9-Mar. 16-NO CLASS Mar. 23-Mar. 30 or April 6….Classes resume on Apr. 13-Apr. 20.** Current students in Mrs. Guadiana’s class, will receive preparation for Reconciliation in their RE Class. Current students in Miss Eva’s class, will receive preparation for the Sacrament of Eucharist, in their RE class. Any questions, contact me.

**2. Please mark the following dates in your calendar:**

**First Reconciliation:**

**February 15, 2023** 1st Reconciliation Parent/Student Session

6:30-7:30 p.m./Church. All paperwork due.

**March 4, 2023** 1st Reconciliation Student/Parent Retreat

9:00-11:00 a.m./Café (Enter Door G)

**March 18, 2023** 1st Reconciliation Prayer Service

9:00 a.m./Church

**First Eucharist:**

**Mar. 7, 2023** 1st Eucharist Parent/Student Session

6:30-7:30 p.m./Church. All paperwork due.

**Mar. 11** 1st Eucharist Student/Parent Retreat

9:00-11:00 a.m./Café (Enter Door G)

Each STUDENT may receive the Sacrament of Eucharist in one of the following ways:

**“Family Communion”** …. the student, along with their family, receives the Sacrament during a Sunday Mass…Saturday at 4:00 p.m. or Sunday at 7:30 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. …beginning Saturday, April 15, 2023 (4:00 p.m. Mass) through Sunday, May 14, 2023. To schedule a time, please call the Parish Office at 844-9027, between the hours of 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Practices for “Family” Communion are usually scheduled either the week of or a week prior to the date. This practice is informal and usually takes about ½ hour.

Please note…if your family tradition is to have Godparents present, then this can only be done at the Family Communion.

**OR**

**“Group” Communion**…students may instead choose to participate in this celebration, which is scheduled for Sunday, May 21, 2023 at a 12:30 p.m. Mass.

**Practices for the “Group” Communion** are scheduled prior to the date of the “Group” celebration. There will be at least one practice, if not two and attendance at both is MANDATORY…if you want your son or daughter to participate in the “Group”. These dates have not been scheduled, as of yet, but are usually held around middle of May

3. **Children’s Liturgy** is held every Sunday at the 10:30 a.m. Mass. Children, ages preschool through 4th-5th grade are welcomed to join in. Fr. Jeff will call the children forward, after the opening prayer. We will then go into the school, where we will hear the same readings, have an interactive homily, say the Creed, and offer Intercessions all at a level our children can understand. The children will then return to join their families/parents at the Offertory. Parents/Older Siblings are welcomed to join us.

4. **February 18 Saturday** **Quinceanera Formation** 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

In the Hispanic culture, the Quinceanera is the next step to adulthood, after the Sacrament of Confirmation, during which the Church tells us that the baptized “are more perfectly bound to the church and are enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit. Hence they are, as true witnesses of Christ, more strictly obliged to spread and defend the faith by word and deed.” Parents are role models for their children. It is assumed that before scheduling a Quinceanera, they, along with their daughter, are actively participating in Sunday Mass. Daughters, getting ready for their Quinceanera, also should have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Holy Communion, and Confirmation. This program, facilitated by Adeline Torres, will take place at St. John Bosco School (1231-171st Pl….Enter through Door A) on Saturday, February 18, 2023 from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Cost: $25.00 (for materials. lunch, snacks).

To register or for more information, please call or email.

5. **LENT BEGINS**: Mark your calendars and join in these Lenten activities

**February 19-March 19** Sundays Faith Feeds 9-10:15 am../Cafeteria

**February 22, 2023** **Ash Wednesday**

**Masses: 6:15 a.m., 8:15 a.m., 10:00 a.m., and 7:00 p.m./Bosco**

**February 24-March 31** Fridays Stations of the Cross

2:15 p.m. (Children’s) and 7:00 p.m.

**March 1-March 29**  Weds. Soup Suppers/Parish Hall

(Sponsored by Youth Group)

**February 24-March 24** Fridays Fish Frys 4:30-7:30 p.m. (Sponsored by HSA/School)

6  **Faith Feeds**-Faith sharing for adults…all RE parents encouraged to attend, while your child is in class.