



# CCD Newsletter



## Important News and Information

St. Dunstan Office of  
Religious Education  
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### **Strong families are all about "We"**

In a society that encourages a "me" mentality, it can be difficult to look at ourselves as part of a family rather than as individuals. But families that teach the importance of "we" can instill accountability, responsibility, and confidence in their children. Working together with your family to create your own special identify will help unite you as "we."

*Decide what it means to be part of your family.*

What qualities are special to you? For example, our family is kind, compassionate, always willing to lend a hand, faithful Catholics, etc.

*Write down the traits and behaviors you agree are important, such as respect, reverence of God, model conduct or positive attitudes. These will help set the standards.*

*Turn these standards into a set of family rules.*

Just as God gave Moses the Ten Commandments outlining true worship and morality, outline for your family a set of concrete rules. For example, "The Jones Family always talks in a respectful tone," or "we attend mass every Sunday."

*Be sure to involve your children in the process.* This gives them a sense of ownership. Working together to follow the rules can unite a family giving it power, purpose and a backbone for growth. Children who are comfortable contributing to a family will also feel comfortable contributing to their school, their parish, and their community.

### **Beginning Year Prayer Service**

Thank you to our Sixth Grade students who lead our Beginning Year Prayer Service today under the leadership of their catechist, Mrs. Maniquis. Job well done!!!

### **Festival Update**

Ride tickets are available in the CCD Office. Tickets are \$15 for a book of 30 (basically half-price).

Letters to those who indicated that they would help with the festival have been sent asking for your time availability. Please return your preference as soon as possible so that we can finalize the schedule for the Bounce House.

Thank you in advance for helping with the staffing of the Bounce House!!!

Raffle tickets are also available. Students can win prizes by selling raffle tickets. Please see flyer that was distributed today.



### **Why do Catholics Have Animals Blessed in October?**

This custom is observed in honor of St. Francis of Assisi, whose feast day is October 4th. This great saint saw himself as a brother to all creation. St. Francis is credited with the first Christmas crèche because he believed all of creation should be involved in the celebration of Christmas. One story about him says that he once preached to a flock of birds that remained completely still until he gave them a blessing and urged them to go forth and proclaim God's glory.

