

Father Michael's Musings
September 2022

Our three young grandchildren have all returned to their local elementary and middle schools from summer vacation. Already, they have become engaged with their teachers, involved with classmates and participants in music, sports and scouts. I am very impressed with our local schools. I know first hand how difficult it can be to get the attention of young people, let alone secure the enthusiasm the schools have elicited from our crew. My congratulations to the teachers, administrators and support teams at Atlantis and Space Coast. I am sure the other local schools are doing an equally brilliant job.

Of course, the Church has a responsibility to education as well. We should be teaching the Bible, both Old and New Testament. We should be explaining the rhythm of our seasons, the beauty of our Liturgy, the importance of the sacraments, the transcendent love of God and the sacrifice His Son, Jesus Christ, offered for our salvation. It is time for us to step up from our summer break and get back into our classrooms and begin teaching the Good Word in earnest once again.

Our Children's Sunday School group has spent the last year refining a wonderful curriculum. In fact, it has become the standard for our Diocese and is under consideration for use in our Diocese of the West. The courses blend Biblical teaching with the sensibilities of our Liturgical seasons and introduce the young people to our Christian heritage, including the great saints and the heroes of the Old Testament. The curriculum is adapted to engage the younger students with activities for their minds, hands and imaginations. The older children have a more mature version of the same curriculum that allows them to explore their place in the Church. Sunday School starts after the sermon at the 10 o'clock service and runs through the return of the young people at Communion.

We also will host our Bishop, the Right Reverend William Bower, on November 20th, and will have confirmations at that time. An enquirer's class to prepare candidates for Confirmations will be held each Sunday immediately following the 10 o'clock service. Adult Sunday School is held from 9:00 AM to 9:45 in the Parish Hall. Our first class will be on September 11th and we will study the Epistles from St. Peter. His letters helped shape the early Church and are still critical to the Church as we navigate these modern times.

We invite you to join us for both education and for services.

God Bless you

Father Michael