## TOGETHER LEARNING CHRIST "TLC" 7th & 8th GRADE RELIGION PROGRAM

9/26/16	1/30/17
10/24/16	2/13/17
11/7/16	2/27/17
11/21/16	3/20/17
12/12/16	4/24/17
1/9/17	

Welcome! We look forward to seeing your 7th and 8th graders on September 26th for their first TLC class! We start off with a "Pizza Party" that night prior to reporting to their classroom.

Sessions are held 11 Monday evenings for 1½ hours from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm. Students gather in the GYM before each class. For everyone's safety, the main doors to the school classrooms will be locked during our religious education classes. Please arrive on time.

Cars line-up for pick up at 8:30 at the back of the school cafeteria. The first 10 cars to arrive are to park against the back wall. We ask that all parents ONLY Use the New Street entrance to the school when picking up. (Do not enter the campus from Main Street)

Please call the Attendance Hotline (973) 543-5950 x 19 to report an absences. Limit: 3 absences

The TLC religious education program is designed to promote positive adolescent development and growth in discipleship and Catholic identity within a youth-friendly community. For our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders we use a flexible religious education curriculum using a thematic approach to catechesis.

"Our Sunday Visitor" Junior High Thematic books are used for both 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders. Website: <a href="http://www.osvcurriculum.com/home/jh\_theme.html">http://www.osvcurriculum.com/home/jh\_theme.html</a>
The curriculum includes a workbook: "Morality" for Grade 7 and "The Church" for Grade 8. All TLC students receive a Bible in 7<sup>th</sup> grade that will be used until Confirmation in 10<sup>th</sup> grade.

In addition to the 6 chapter workbook, part of the TLC syllabus includes: a Bible Workshop, Prayer experience including Adoration & Benediction, Respect Life, Corporal Acts of Mercy in the form of an in-class service project, and a Lenten experience for students and parents.

The TLC years are exciting for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders at St. Joseph. At this age, students are continuing to develop a social sense and they enjoy doing things with their peers while just being "together". The structure of the classroom environment allows 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders to talk about their faith as they learn since each class is structured like a "small group" community. We find that may students look forward to Monday nights.

Our TLC program is the precursor to Confirmation preparation. In order to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation (in grade 10), continuous and sequential attendance in a Religious Education program for grades 1 to 8 is required.

God bless you and we look forward to your child joining our TLC program in the fall~

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