

**Queen of Angels School of Religion
Sunday Morning Classes
Grade 2 – Preparation for First Communion**

Dear Parent or Guardian,

At your child's Baptism you promised along with your child's godparents to do your part to instill the Catholic faith in your child and help him/her to grow in faith and knowledge of the Our Lord Jesus and His teachings.

This year is a very important year in the faith-life of your child. This is the year during which your child will be preparing for his/her reception of First Holy Communion. You have made the first step by enrolling your child in Sunday morning religion classes here at Queen of Angels parish. As your child's teacher for these classes, I will be depending on you to reinforce what is taught in that very short hour on Sunday morning.

Parents often ask how they can help their children. As a parent myself, I know that asking a child what he/she learned in class today does not always result in a satisfactory answer. In an attempt to assist in this, I have prepared a brief synopsis of each lesson presented in our book. I have included the scripture passages referred to in class. You might want to sit down with your child and reread one or more of those passages during the week.

Very simple prayer forms have also been included. At the end of each class, I like to gather the students in a group for just a couple of minutes of quiet spontaneous prayer. Sometimes this is quiet and meditative and sometimes the children participate with petitions or gifts they want to thank God for in the group. Sometimes the prayer is more formal and an Our Father or Hail Mary is recited by all. This should be the model for prayer with your child too. Explore many forms and types of prayer. Even a few moments of silence spent after reading a few lines of scripture or while looking at a religious object (crucifix, statue, or picture) can be a form of prayer. This time need not be lengthy, but the time is precious both for you and for your child.

Some family activities are included which are meant to give you some suggestions of ways to extend and reinforce each week's lesson. You should choose the one that most appeals to your family. Most of the activities do not require much time. A few might require a trip to the library to obtain a book that contains a story that reinforces the message of the religion lesson for that week.

Some religion lessons will take more than one Sunday morning class to complete, but your child should bring home the lesson synopses nearly every week. It is a good habit to ask to see the work your child did in class every week as soon as you pick up your child. In this way you will be able to share in the growth of your child's faith-life as well as see if your child has homework to do. Short homework assignments will be given nearly every week. You should go over these assignments to make sure that your child understands the information that was given during class.

I welcome your feed back and look forward to a year of faith with your child.

Mrs. Monica Hohner

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