



*“Our Lady Queen of Peace Early Childhood Education is dedicated to sharing in Christ's call to help build the kingdom of God by providing young children an introduction to their Catholic faith community.”*

September, 2015

Dear Parents,

Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish offers a very special program for children ages three through kindergarten. The Early Childhood Religious Education Program (ECE) introduces our preschoolers to religion through bible stories, crafts, games and music at their own developmental levels. The children enjoy meeting others as part of the larger Christian community sharing stories about their families, celebrating the holidays together, and finding out more about God. Remember, ECE is different from the *Service of the Word* program, designed for grades 1-4 **during the liturgy. This is an age appropriate venue designed for parents to attend mass while the Early Childhood students attend class. Lessons are geared toward the children's developmental levels as they infuse the Sunday Gospel and early learning of the Bible.**

The ECE Program begins the first week of October. Classes are held in the school classrooms **during** the 9:30 a.m. Mass. The ECE calendar follows the school calendar for days off throughout the year. The children also have the opportunity to participate in Christmas and Easter plays/song Programs during the year. Classes are taught by adults or high school students who often co-teach a class.

You'll notice that in this mailing we have included the schedule – but no registration form. That's because for the first time **our registration form is being offered on line!**

Click here to register: <https://membership.faithdirect.net/events/details/100>

Thanks to FaithDirect we now offer an easy, on-line registration and on-line payment for all students from ECE through Grade 10.

There are a variety of ways in which you as a parent can get involved in the ECE program. We continue to welcome new commission members to fill up the current ECE commission. The group meets 3X per year, to discuss changes and improvements to the ECE program. New classroom teachers are needed each year. We would love to see more parents involved in this fun and rewarding ministry. Curriculum, lesson plans and supplies are provided. Please consider yourself for teaching, co-teaching, substitute, or music teaching position. As always, we are grateful for any behind the scene help you can give. Fill in volunteer form here [https://docs.google.com/a/qopc.org/forms/d/1f9Wf6DTKr9ol\\_LtedCK7K85W9GJ8nGU7-hOirg8lZy4/viewform](https://docs.google.com/a/qopc.org/forms/d/1f9Wf6DTKr9ol_LtedCK7K85W9GJ8nGU7-hOirg8lZy4/viewform)

The ECE oldest child fee is \$85. The fee for all additional children in a family is \$70 per child. To register your child for the ECE program for the 2015-2016 year, simply fill out the enclosed registration form and mail it by **September 11**, with fee and parent volunteer form. As always, need-based tuition scholarships are available. If you want to request scholarship, please contact [lisa.haas@qopc.org](mailto:lisa.haas@qopc.org) or call 608-231-4600. Please call 231-4600 or 843-7755 with any questions you might have.

God's blessings,

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