

August 4th, 2020

Memorial of St. John Vianney, Priest

From the Catechetical Instructions by St. John Vianney

“My little children, reflect on these words: the Christian’s treasure is not on earth but in heaven. Our thoughts, then ought to be directed to where our treasure is. This is the glorious duty of man: to pray and to love. If you pray and love, that is where a man’s happiness lies.

We will begin our new and very different 2020-21 PREP year on September 28th, when we launch the first of our all-online lessons.

Through our online registration from - <https://forms.parishgiving.org/form-2637806/> - you can now sign your children up for either weekly PREP lessons using Sophia Institute Press’s *Spirit of Truth* series (the same texts as last year), or families may continue or begin for the first time our monthly, home-based Family Catechesis.

Spirit of Truth (1st - 8th classroom curricula): <https://sophiainstituteforteachers.org/shop/spirit-of-truth-parish>

Family of Faith (Family Catechesis, all levels): <https://sophiainstituteforteachers.org/shop/family-of-faith>

While informational videos will be posted to our website (olguadalupe.org/prep) explaining all of this year’s changes soon, for now allow me to at least list a basic outline.

- While we were already planning to all-digital this Fall, recent directives from Central Bucks School District have clarified that we will not be able to make use of space at Cold Spring Elementary until the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has moved beyond any “phase” level. We are hopeful for a return to normal for the Spring semester, and have placed reservations for classroom space in the event that this is possible for all of us to do safely.
- The OLG PREP website will soon have landing pages for each grade level, with each page being updated weekly and hosting that week’s pre-recorded video lesson. These will always be posted at the same time each week for convenient access.
- While we cannot sustain live Zoom classes for each grade, we will have a team of catechists holding live Zoom sessions on Monday and Tuesday nights from approximately 6 to 8pm, where students and parents may drop in to ask questions about the material for the week, work through any challenges, and discuss content as they please. Lessons and workbook materials should be completed ahead of time, but these are meant to make up for our inability to meet in person safely, while mitigating the chaos of large-scale live lessons.
- We will be making extensive use of the app provided by Sophia Institute Press, which features a digital, interactive version of your child’s textbook and allows our catechists to keep an eye on progress, lesson completion, etc.
- More info will come soon about how we’re implementing our website and digital materials to facilitate a flexible experience for families to maintain progress in PREP

Separate communications will come soon for our 7th and 8th grade families once we have formed our complete team of catechists.

We will also soon send out a Fall calendar with dates for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and other parish events that PREP students are welcomed to attend.

In light of our programming being cut off prematurely last Spring, as well as the need to move our programming online this Fall, we now have adjusted tuition rates. Include in the new rates is a discount meant to make up for the months of instruction we lost last Spring. You will hopefully notice that this year's tuition is a significant discount from years past, and is meant to offer a small relief to families while still covering the costs of actually running and maintaining PREP and its infrastructure.

Please see below the two tuition schemas for Weekly PREP and Family Catechesis (Monthly):

WEEKLY PREP TUITION

Number of Children enrolling	Tuition paid in full By August 31 st , 2020	Tuition paid in full on or after September 1 st , 2020 Late fee = \$25.00
1	\$115.00	\$140.00
2	\$165.00	\$190.00
Each additional child	\$165.00 + \$50.00 per child	\$190.00 + \$50.00 per child

FAMILY CATECHESIS TUITION

Number of Children enrolling	Tuition paid in full By August 31 st , 2020	Tuition paid in full on or after September 1 st , 2020 Late fee = \$25.00
1	\$115.00	\$140.00
2	\$140.00	\$165.00
Each additional child	\$140 + \$25.00 per child	\$165.00 + \$25.00 per child

** If your child is receiving a sacrament this year, there is a **Sacramental Fee** as well, which assists in incidental expenses, i.e., include retreat supplies and supplemental catechetical materials. **This fee is \$40 per child in a sacrament year.**

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me (ddrain@olguadalupe.org) or the PREP staff (prep@olguadalupe.org) with questions about registration, particularly if you are unsure of which approach is right for your family.

Yours in Christ,

Daniel A. Drain, Ph.D. (Cand.), MTS

Director of Religious Education