



LET THE CHILDREN COME TO ME

The Religious Education Program of Our Holy Redeemer, with the help of Director Mrs. Joanne Stuhlinger, Co-Director Mr. Braulio Cacao, and the Catechists, enrolled over five hundred children during the 2015-2016 academic year. And because not all of those children are going to Sunday Mass, a call went out on Sunday, 12 June: *“Attention all Parents and/or Guardians of children in the Our Holy Redeemer Religious Education Program: There is a MANDATORY Parent meeting on Thursday, 16 June 2016 at 7:30 P.M. in the church. This meeting is for ADULTS ONLY; no students are to attend. Please RSVP to the Religious Education office.”*



At that meeting, parents in attendance were thanked for answering the call; especially on such short notice. And after a few words about our recent celebration of the church's 105 year anniversary, parents were asked to let the children come to Jesus every Sunday at Holy Mass. With help from their Pastor, Father Arcoleo, and their two Associate Pastors, Father da Luz and Father Carlos, they were reminded of the importance of Sunday Mass for living the Life of a Christian, the importance of arriving at Mass before the Priest and leaving Mass after him, and the importance of silence before, during, and after Mass. In addition they were asked to remember that:

The Command to *Break Bread* together was Issued by Jesus with Six Words

“When the hour came, He took His place at table with the Apostles ... He took a cup, gave thanks, and said, ‘Take this and share it among yourselves; for I tell you [that] from this time on I shall not drink of the fruit of the vine until the Kingdom of God comes.’ Then He took the bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, ‘This is My Body, which will be given for you; **do this in memory of Me.**’ And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, ‘This cup is the new covenant in My Blood, which will be shed for you’” (Saint Luke XXII:14-20).

They Said That *They Clearly Understood This* When They Brought Their Child to Church for Baptism and During The Ritual

Priest/Deacon: “You have asked to have your child Baptized. In doing so you are accepting the responsibility of training him (her) in the practice of the faith. It will be your duty to bring him (her) up to keep God's commandments as Christ taught us, by loving God and our neighbour. **Do you clearly understand what you are undertaking?**”

Parents: “**We do.**”

And They Said They Understood it When They Registered Their Child for Religious Education

“We understand that attending Mass is required (not only for children enrolled in the Religious Education Program of OHR but for every Baptized Catholic). We agree to meet this requirement.”

Parents who fail to help their children meet the requirements of a Parish Religious Education Program, **even after they agree to meet those requirements** may still get to Heaven. What will happen to those parents and their children (or any of us for that matter) if they fail to meet the requirements of Jesus? Let us pray that none of us has to find out.