

*St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish  
Religious Education Program  
1377 East Main Street  
Shrub Oak, New York 10588*

August, 09

Dear Parents/Guardians of our Level 3-5 Students,

How is summer like a rollercoaster? It starts out very slowly, reaches the top, on August 15<sup>th</sup> and races down the steep winding hill at a very fast pace!

Here we find ourselves preparing for another school year and it is only a few weeks away. My hope is that you have enjoyed the slow, lazy days and that you are as eager as we are to begin another year of Religious Education at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. As the new coordinator for levels 1-5, I look forward to meeting you and seeing so many familiar faces from Putnam Valley!

Throughout their school day your child(ren) are learning to see themselves as lifelong readers, writers and thinkers. As parents, who are lifelong learners yourselves, you have been encouraged by their teachers to discuss the literature they read, the pieces they write and to explore our world with them as they strive to construct meaning. This year, I would like to invite you to encourage your child to use all the strategies they are utilizing in the academic world to enhance their relationship with God. For example: When listening to the readings each Sunday:

- discuss the text-to-text connection between the 1<sup>st</sup> reading and the gospel;
- encourage your child to visualize the gospel
- make self-to-text connections and self-to-world connections as well as
- make predictions of a character's response to their encounter with Jesus.

The reading, writing and thinking activities are endless and I encourage you to read through your child's text with him/her and use the Family Time pages to facilitate meaningful moments at home. This is prime time for your child!

Children at this age...

- have a natural sense of wonder
- look for heroes and will enjoy stories of saints and model Christians
- are capable of reflecting for periods of time and believe it or not-
- **enjoy quiet**

We hope that you will find the Parent's Handbook helpful. Please feel free to stop by the office or call if you have any questions. We are here for you.

Thank you for your cooperation and generosity. Thank you for making all the adjustments to suit your child's school routines and athletic/ extracurricular activities. Above all, thank you for prioritizing and modeling for your child the importance of a faithful relationship with Jesus.

Sincerely yours,

Louise Frangella