

Welcome to our parish!

BRINGING YOUR CHILDREN TO MASS GUIDE

Being a parent of small children is a beautiful season in life, full of joys and challenges. We are blessed to have you worshipping with us today! Here are some thoughts we would like to share with you!

- 1** If you are not sitting near the front of the sanctuary, consider doing so! Small children participate in the Mass primarily through their senses. Allowing children to see the altar is a crucial part of this process.
- 2** Consider taking time in the Sanctuary, outside of Mass hours, to help your little one become acquainted with the Church. Show them the crucifix, the Stations of the Cross, the Tabernacle, the Baptismal Font, the Pascal Candle, images of Mary, and the Saints.
- 3** Your little one may be fussy during Mass. Please know you can always step away to comfort your child if s/he is having a difficult time; however, we hope you will rejoin us in your pew as soon as you are able.
- 4** If your child is not yet baptized please contact the church office. We invite your entire family to receive this life-giving Sacrament!
- 5** Our parish has ministries for you and your child, including faith formation classes. Please contact the church office or see the bulletin for more information. We would love for you to join us!
- 6** You are your child's first and most important teacher. Your faithfulness in coming to Mass and worshipping our Lord is a gift that you are giving your children. They will follow your lead, even if it takes time. Be patient with yourselves and them.

"It would be easier for the world to survive without the sun than to do without Holy Mass."

St. Pio of Pietrelcina



A MESSAGE TO THE PARISH

- 1** If you see a family struggling, ask if you can help. We've all needed the help of another before.
- 2** Offer up a prayer for families at Mass. "Lord, please bless this family, I pray they feel your loving peace and the grace of your infinite love."
- 3** Consider sitting in the middle of the pew. If a parent needs to take a child out of the sanctuary during Mass it is easier, and safer, for them to not have to step over you.
- 4** A Church that does not have the sounds of small children is a dying church. We are blessed to have young families worshipping with us! We pray you will welcome new families and invite them to participate in the parish life.

