

From the Office of Religious Education

Mary-Jo MacKinnon-Simms

*“How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news,
who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion,
“Your God reigns!”. Listen! Your watchmen lift up their voices; together they shout for joy.
When the LORD returns to Zion, they will see it with their own eyes.
Burst into songs of joy together, you ruins of Jerusalem,
for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem.”*

Isaiah 52:7-9

During these challenging times in our world, the Office of Religious Education is finding new ways to support our faith and make connections through innovation. The Pastoral Centre library has some excellent resources in book and DVD format. Please call or email Goretta for more information at ore@romancatholic.kingston.on.ca, 613-548-4461 ext 112.

We developed some new initiatives this Fall, including a **Sacramental Preparation Zoom Meeting** on November 17th, for parents preparing their children for **First Communion and First Reconciliation**, and another Zoom Meeting on November 24th, for those preparing for the **Sacrament of Confirmation**. Our goal was to offer resources to assist parents in preparing their children for these sacraments. We are happy to add more sessions in the new year, if there is interest expressed.

During Advent this year, the Archdiocese of Kingston will be hosting a video presentation each week on the Sunday Mass readings. Reflections will be given by the following presenters:

Deacon Mark Mawson, Father Julius Nwagbara, smmm, Sister Rosemary Brosseau, cnd, and Mary Pat Byrne. The videos will be available on our Archdiocesan website on the Thursday before the next Sunday of Advent. It is our hope that, during these times of uncertainty, these reflections will bring comfort and promise for the Advent season.



In the new year, we will be hosting a **Zoom workshop**, facilitated by **Robert Mundle**, on **Pope Francis's recent encyclical letter, Fratelli Tutti**. The workshop will be held on **January 26th** from **6:30-8:30 p.m.** Watch your bulletin and our webpage for sign-up details.

We will be hosting a **Zoom Workshop for Grandparents**, entitled **“Sharing our Faith”**, on **February 22nd** from **6:30-8:30 p.m.** It will be facilitated by **David Dayler**, the author of **Sharing Our Story: How Grandparents Today Pass On The Catholic Faith**. Please watch our website and check your bulletin for details. **Sharing Our Story** can be ordered online from Novalis at <https://en.novalis.ca/products/sharing-our-stories>

As always, I welcome your insight and ideas. Please contact me anytime!

