

**St. Gilbert Religious Education
Parent Letter #8
January 22, 2023**

Dear Parents,
I hope the days after Christmas have been enjoyable ones for you and your family.



Grade 4 Parent/Student Retreat – parents and students have a retreat regarding the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Saturday, February 4, 9:00 am - 12:00 Noon. 4th graders will not have class February 5.

Grade 6 students and parents will have an opportunity to experience a Seder, the Jewish Passover meal on Sunday, March 19, 2023 during the Sunday class. The Seder is part of the study of the Old Testament. Mark your calendar now!



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION



This is a reminder that the Parent and Student meeting for First Communion is on Sunday, January 29 at 2:00 pm. It is a Mass that includes a brief explanation of the parts that comprise it. After the Mass, the parents will be given the opportunity to sign their son/daughter up for the date of First Communion. Please make every effort to be there.

9:00 AM MASS

Students in Grades 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6 will attend the 9:00 am Parish Mass on Sunday, February 26 as part of their class. Please have the students in their classroom at 8:45 am that morning in order for them to be at Mass before it begins. Anyone who is late, please bring the student/s to Church. Dismissal is at the regular time.



I need to ask those of you who have not paid any part of this year's tuition to make an effort to make a payment. The \$30 Book Fee is for textbooks and supplies which have already been spent. Tuition envelopes are sent home with those families who pay their tuition over five months. Thank you to all those families who have used the payment program faithfully.

Thank you to those who have sent in money for the Tuition Assistance Program. It is a wonderful way to assist families who cannot pay all the tuition. Thank you for your help in this regard.

Blessings! Sister Donna

WINTER TEACHES ME

Winter teaches me patience:
Walk carefully on icy sidewalks.

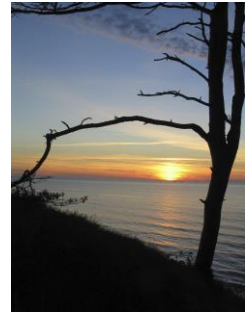


Drive slower through snarled traffic.
Take more time to put on layers of clothes.
Wait for streets to be cleared of snow.
Be understanding about mail arriving late.

Winter strengthens my courage:
Go out into windy, freezing air.
Risk traveling on snowy roads.
Dress warmly and go for a walk.
Ski through woods, alone and free.
Be at peace in long days of darkness.

Winter brings me beauty:
Look up at the star-filled sky.
Pause to breathe the crisp air.
Vigil with steel-blue sunsets.
Marvel at frost etchings on windows.
Sink boots into soft, sensual powder.

Winter gives me silent hope:
Touch the terminal buds on branches.
Clear the snow and find green moss below.
Watch the sunlight fade, then linger longer.
Stand with the strength of evergreen trees.
Listen to birds cheeping at the feeder.



By Joyce Rupp