



# ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA

## Secretariat for Evangelization

222 North Seventeenth Street • Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-1299

Telephone (215) 587-3913 • Video Phone (267)507-1212 • Fax (215) 587-3561

Email: [sr.kschipani@archphila.org](mailto:sr.kschipani@archphila.org) • [www.opdarchphilly.org](http://www.opdarchphilly.org) • [www.DeafCatholicPhilly.org](http://www.DeafCatholicPhilly.org)

### OFFICE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES & THE DEAF APOSTOLATE

August 28, 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The new school year is beginning for many and I hope you are thinking about and the ongoing Religious Education of your child who is Deaf/hard of hearing. The principal Religious Education Program of the Deaf Apostolate will be at St. Matthew Parish School 3040 Cottman Avenue, Philadelphia PA 19149. This location is where the Deaf Apostolate has the Deaf Community Mass on the First and Third Sundays at 11:15 AM in the Lower Church and interpreted Masses on the Second and Fourth Sundays in the Upper Church. There is parking behind the Church that is convenient to the entrance we will use to the School for the Religious Education classrooms.

To register for weekly Religious Education, please complete the enclosed form. Mail or email the form to me by **September 15, 2019**. The fee for the Deaf Apostolate Religious Education program covers the cost of books and materials. **The fee for one child is \$50.00 and \$75.00 for two or more children in a family. If this fee is a difficulty please call and request special consideration.** Please submit completed form and registration fee payable to: Deaf Apostolate, 222 North Seventeenth Street - 8<sup>th</sup> Fl., Philadelphia PA 19103-1299. **You may also pay by credit card. Use this link: <https://secure.acceptiva.com/?cst=180900>.** Please place the amount of your payment on the line for Deaf Apostolate. Please be sure to email or give me the registration form.

The first classes will be **September 29, 2019** at 9:45 AM. Please use the back entrance of St. Matthew School that goes into the cafeteria area. I will meet with parents and children together, introduce the teachers and then have class with the children. We hope that children and their families will then attend the interpreted or Deaf Community Mass each Sunday. During class each Sunday we hope to have an informal Religious Sign Language Class for parents. This will assist parents in teaching prayers to their children in American Sign Language.

The celebration of Mass is at the heart of our Catholic faith, we are fortunate in this Archdiocese to have Masses in American Sign Language at various sites. For your child who is deaf attending these Masses in ASL will enable your child to more fully understand and live their faith.

All the Masses, programs and events of the Deaf Apostolate are on line at the Archdiocesan Website [www.DeafCatholicPhilly.org](http://www.DeafCatholicPhilly.org). Please do not hesitate to contact me ([sr.kschipani@archphila.org](mailto:sr.kschipani@archphila.org)) by e-mail or phone us at **215-587-3530 phone or 267-507-1215 video phone**. Please know that you and your families are in my prayers.

Sincerely,

*Sr. Kathleen Schipani*

Sister Kathleen M. Schipani, IHM  
Director