



# Ignite the F.I.R.E.



## Families Involved in Religious Education

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### OVERVIEW & PURPOSE

F.I.R.E. is a hope to involve more families in the investment of teaching our children to live and love the Catholic faith, through education, family events and opportunities to build up our relationship with Christ and His Church as families and as a community.

### FR. ZACH'S HOMILY - OBLIGATION

“Obligation”...the word strikes a burden in the hearts of some, but Fr. Zach preached this weekend on how “low” the actual “obligation bar” is when it comes in terms of time and effort it really takes to follow the precepts of the Church and what it means to be Catholic.

- 1) Mass - attend on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation - when put into perspective, in one year, there are 8,760 hours, and God is asking for less than 60. If it was money and you had \$80, could you give God \$0.60? Holy Days - there are 6, and here are the dates for 2019 - January 1 (Solemnity of Mary), May 30 (Ascension of Jesus), August 15 (Assumption of Mary), **November 1 (All Saints), December 9 (Immaculate Conception of Mary), and December 25.**
- 2) Attend confession *at least* once a year
- 3) Receive Jesus in the Eucharist *at least* during the Easter season (remember Easter lasts 50 days).
- 4) Keep holy the Sabbath (refrain from unnecessary work on Sunday)
- 5) Observe days of fasting (there are only 2 in a year!) and abstinence of meat - Fasting is on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday - Refrain from meat on Fridays during Lent (in 2020, there are 7)
- 6) Catholics should be married within the church, or if in another denomination, obtain permission from the Bishop.
- 7) Provide for the material needs of the Church, according to your abilities.

As always, we should strive to go above and beyond the “minimums”, but these precepts are what the Church asks of us in terms of “obligation”. Rather than be a burden to us, we can embrace these easily laid out rules to help us grow in our faith and love of Christ and His Church that teaches us.

**“Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire!” ~ St. Catherine of Siena**