

Greetings 5th Grade Parents and Students,

“Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ.” St. Jerome

Over the past few years, Catholic Bibles and Catholic Bible studies have made Sacred Scripture more accessible to the layperson. To incentivize and capitalize on these efforts, a donor is providing award money for reading the Holy Bible. The award is \$500 for the student and \$200 for the parents for a possible total of \$700 to go to your tuition at Bishop Flaget for the 7th grade academic year.

Requirements:

- Complete the “Bible in a Year” with Fr. Mike Schmitz from Ascension Press before May 1st, 2025. The podcasts can be listened to via a podcast app or web browser at the Ascension Press website.

In The Bible in a Year podcast, Fr. Mike Schmitz guides you through the entire Bible in 365 episodes. Using an exclusive reading plan rooted in The Bible Timeline (a ground-breaking approach to understanding salvation history developed by Biblical scholar Jeff Cavins) you won't just read the Bible ... you'll finally understand how all the pieces fit together to tell an amazing story that continues in your life today!

~Ascension Press website

- Return this letter by May 30th, 2025, with the signatures of the student, and parents, if they participated, indicating that it was completed and the appropriate money will be credited to your account for the 2025-2026 school year.

Rules:

- Those who have already completed the Bible in a Year are not eligible and will not receive tuition credit.
- Ascension Press provides a reading plan which is not necessary. However, you **must** listen to the podcast because Fr. Mike provides helpful reflection/instruction. They run between 20 and 25 minutes.
- It is OK to miss (a) day(s) and catch up. However, if you plan on doing a week's worth on a weekend day, you won't benefit as much as you should/could.
- If you weren't aware, there are seven Old Testament books in a Catholic Bible that are not in a Protestant Bible. You must include those books in your readings. If you have a question as to why the difference between Catholic and Protestant Bibles, you are highly encouraged to talk with Fr. Tuttle or Fr. Brown.
- Parent award. For the full parent award of \$200, both parents must participate. If there is a step-parent, they too must participate for the full award. If only one parent participates, only \$100 will be awarded.

Holy Bible. The Holy Bible that Fr. Mike uses is *The Great Adventure Bible* from Ascension Press. The important thing is that it is the Revised Standard Version, Catholic Edition. The participating students will receive their own free copy of the Holy Bible to use and keep. It is *The Didache Bible* with commentaries based on the Catechism of the Catholic Church, Ignatius Bible Edition which is a Revised Standard Version Bible.

- Bible Version. You may use any **version** of the Holy Bible. However, you may not be aware that there are quite a few **versions** (sometimes people use the word “translations”). These different versions are just that, different versions. Fr. Mike is going to be reading from the Revised Standard Version. If you are reading along with a different version, you are likely to be “distracted/confused, etc...”. Don’t assume whatever Holy Bible you have will be close enough, even if it’s a Catholic Bible like the New American Bible. The distraction (and probably frustration) is not worth it.

Sacred Scripture is a life-long treasure. It is not without difficult passages. Additionally, with the Israelite family (your spiritual ancestors) that it follows, you are separated by time, space, and culture which will make some passages even more difficult to understand. You would benefit from reading the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (available online) paragraphs 101 to 133 before embarking on this journey.

Finally, the Holy Bible is your spiritual family story. Your family would best profit if you were to hold some of these readings together. Far too many Christians do not know the Holy Bible as well as they should. If you complete this, your reward will be worth far greater than the \$700 going to the tuition.

Yours,



Mrs. Laura Corcoran
Principal



Father Chris Tuttle
Pastor

My signature below indicates that I have accepted the opportunity to participate in Father Mike’s Bible in a Year Podcast study. By signing below, I am indicating that I have completed the entire podcast and read the entire Bible through this process.

Thank you.

Student Name (please print)

Student Signature

Parent Name (please print)

Parent Signature

Parent Name (please print)

Parent Signature