

# THE AUGMENTER

**Webster's Definition:**  
augment (verb)—to  
make or become greater  
augmenter (noun)

Newsletter for Families of St. Augustine Religious Education in Larchmont, NY

## How Can We Evangelize Parents?

I am haunted by the question, "How can we evangelize parents?" asked of me recently that I couldn't answer. After a lifetime of living as a committed Catholic woman, a religious sister and a passionate disciple I was frazzled and embarrassed to say, "I don't know." And so the track record of some of our children this year makes me wonder all the more. Is religious education with a real emphasis on the Sunday liturgy, the Gospels and living them authentically just an add on to a busy life? I believe that parents are the primary educators of their children. Therefore, my question has real significance for the vitality and relevance of our life of our Catholic faith.

Most parents know that one of the elements of maturity is "showing up." When it comes to only 30 religious education classes, and this year 28 because of snow, **attendance is primary**, if the Gospel is to be learned and spread and if Jesus is to become central to a person's life. The Pflaum Gospel Weeklies, which was the curriculum, offered a very relevant and dynamic tool for enacting the Sunday Gospels and applying them to 21<sup>st</sup> century life for our children and young people. But learning about the Sunday Gospels presupposes families are at Sunday Mass.

In my high school years I received a book, titled, **Christ Wants More**. It was written for teens and had a deep influence on me for the rest of my life. Maybe that is why I have tried to give the **more**. So I am passionate about discipleship. When I see that others may not have the same commitment I feel that there must be something I am not doing or we as a community of faith need to improve.

The responsibility of a child's "showing up" depends on the parents. There were a few families who had death and sickness that caused some changes in their lives but that number is very small. Sports, I fear, entered into the mix for many. This year the Mamaroneck school district scheduled concerts, plays and trips on Wednesdays. I have contacted the activities coordinator to consider scheduling events outside of Wednesdays.

**Next year, 2014-2015, responsibility and accountability will be more than words in our religious education program at St. Augustine's.** Expectations will be clearly stated for advancement to the next grade, particularly in regard to **attendance**. Home schooling will not be provided.

I am haunted by a response one Confirmation candidate gave me a few years ago when I asked how I

can help in the future. **He answered, "Encourage me to attend Sunday Mass."**

The new registration form is being sent to the homes of each family. The finance council in collaboration with Msgr. Kelly and me decided on the new fees. I am bold enough to proclaim that we offer one of the best programs in the area. If you care to respond to my question by email I would appreciate insights, suggestions, answers, etc. I will continue to "show up" trying anyway!

Sister Suzanne

My wish for you now and always is what I have tried to live and "show up" trying!

### ANYWAY

**People are unreasonable, illogical, and self centered. Love them anyway!**

**If you do good, people will accuse you of selfish ulterior motives. Do good anyway!**

**The good you do today will be forgotten tomorrow. Do good anyway!**

**Honesty and frankness make you vulnerable. Be honest and frank anyway!**

**The biggest person with the biggest ideas can be shot down by the smallest people with the smallest minds. Think big anyway!**

**People favor underdogs but follow only top dogs. Fight for some underdogs anyway!**

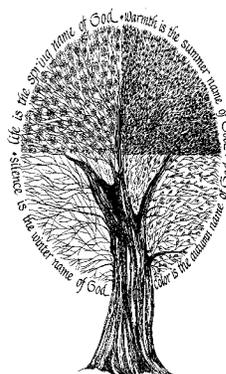
**What you spend years building may be destroyed overnight. Build anyway!**

**People really need your help but may attack you if you help them. Help people anyway!**

**Give the world the best you have and you'll get kicked in the teeth**

**GIVE THE WORLD THE BEST YOU'VE GOT ANYWAY!!!**

**Author unknown**



The Augmenter logo expands our vision of God through the seasons.

*Our catechists are remarkable, always planning their lessons, being prepared and above all, "showing up."*

### Sunday Catechists and Assistants

**1S1**-Cathriona Murphy, Lessy Martinez,  
Jacqui Longbucco\*

**2S1**-Joan Haworth, Laura Kiernan\*  
Samantha Pulcino\*

**3S1**-Margarita Sawhney

**4S1**-Elvira Perdomo, John Wilson\* Katie Wilson\*

**5S1**-Sara Romeo Keeshan\*, Chris Keeshan\*

**5S2**- Karen Khor

**6S1**-Courtney Hewson\*, Karen Astorina

**7/8S1**-Juan Pujadas

### Wednesday Catechists and Assistants

#### First Grade

**1A1**-Megan Graham, Abby Showers,  
Christine O'Shea

**1A2**-Rachael Grimm\*, Lynelle McLane\*

**1A3**-Hope Hickey\*, Patti Anderson\*

**1A4**-Terry Donnellan\*, Catherine Bertini\*

#### Second Grade

**2A1**-Diane Proctor, Katie Fitzgerald

**2A2**-Debra Quintana

**2A3**-Laura Maloney, Danielle Stout

**2A4**-Cha Mackie, Amanda Schlumberger,  
Lynda Fisher

**2A5**-Brenda Heffernan, Pier Witek\*

#### Third Grade

**3A1**-Carey Federspiel, Mary Ann Martucci

**3A2**-Judy Casey, Anne McCarthy

**3A3**-Rachael Horan\*, Roisin Butler\*

**3A4**-Courtney Hewson\* Greg Hurley

**3A5**-Genevieve Boron

#### Fourth Grade

**4A1**-Jodi Jamieson, Jack Jamieson\*

**4A2**-Jenny Webb, Heather Messerle\*

**4A3**-Maureen Meehan, Fran Mannix

**4A4**-Kate Anderson, Theresa Finck

**4A5**-Mark McNally\*, Maggie  
McNally\*

#### Fifth Grade

**5A1**-Tom Burns, André Castaybert

**5A2**-Dawn Johanson, Linda Brown

**5A3**-Teresa Laughlin

**5A4**-Jane Symington, Paul Kaminski  
Lisa Sommer

#### Sixth Grade

**6E1**-Mary Ann Mazza

**6E2**-Valerie Mouracade

**6E3**-Diane Andersen, Tom  
Andersen\*

**6E4**-Rachael Erfe

#### Seventh Grade

**7E1**-Anita Dziwura,  
James Dziwura\*

**7E2**-Margi Gristina

**7E3**-Therese Hollwitz

**7E4**-Ann Betkowski

#### Eighth Grade

**8E1**-Mary Spollen

**8E2**-Jolita Haigis\*

**8E3**-Joan Haworth

#### 9th Confirmation

Sister Suzanne



### MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!

**Wednesday, June 4, 2014** from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. the Catechists, Catechist Assistants, and Special Volunteers are invited to a celebration at the Davenport Club. We appreciate the people who make such a difference in the lives of our children and young people.

\* **New Catechists & Assistants as of 2013**

\*\* **Special Wednesday Volunteers:** office — Lisa Collins and Missy Wey  
**Child Care** — Margaret Paganini, Rachael Grimm, Juliet Bailey, Cathy Bizzard, Diana Bravo, Kendra Jennings, Jessica Prezorski, Jenny Shiels-Toland and Kim Vetere

\*\*\* **Special Sunday Volunteers** — Diane Lama, Maura Gallagher, Christina Kraft, Jo-Ann Allee, Ed Rice, Claire Brosnan and Melissa Schoen

Sister Suzanne Duzen, SS.C.M.,  
Director of Religious Education  
Publisher of *The Augmenter*  
Send suggestions for future articles  
to: srsuzanne@verizon.net

Please consider the marvel of growing in your faith by learning and sharing it and become a catechist or an assistant catechist for next year. My hope is to have two catechists in every classroom. We will have 40 plus classes next year, therefore need 80 plus catechists!

**New catechists** will be expected to have a preliminary meeting along with the grade level meeting in September. The new catechist orientation helps a person to learn the art of teaching and the grade level meeting sets a catechist in the level of a child or young person's developmental level. Please schedule a meeting with Sister Suzanne if you have questions or reservations. Our mission is discipleship. Being a catechist is the journey of discipleship.