

SEPTEMBER 2021 NEWSLETTER

St. Bernard's Parish Faith Formation

WELCOME TO THE 2021/2022 FAITH FORMATION FAMILY!

NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE

This year the teachers will be submitting their classroom updates on a staggered schedule instead of a monthly schedule.

Classroom updates from the teachers will be included in the following monthly newsletters:

September 2021
November 2021
February 2022
April 2022

Father Steven, Deacon Glenn, Deacon Kevin, and Sister Ellen will share information on a monthly schedule. You will also find important dates, charity, and fundraiser opportunities, etc. in the monthly newsletter.

2021 – 2022 Teachers

Grade 1	Josh Wieter	jdwieter@yahoo.com
Grade 2	Robbin Netemeyer & Kaitlyn Toennies (First Reconciliation and First Communion)	gnetemeyer@msn.com kmtenyas@icloud.com
Grade 3	Kathy Engelmann	kate78@charter.net
Grade 4	Judy Albers & Brooke Zurliene	richarda1212@charter.net bzurl248@gmail.com
Grade 5	John Hilmes	johnhil1999.jh@gmail.com
Grade 6	Reagan Rickhoff	
Grade 7	Dana Lake	danalake67@gmail.com
Grade 8	Kelly Jansen & Jamie Jung	kr_jansen@yahoo.com (kr_jansen) iambalam07@gmail.com
Mass Helpers	Melissa Netemeyer Phyllis Albers Kati Schwierjohn Cindy Hubert	5nets@charter.net pjalbie@gmail.com kkschwie@gmail.com

Thank you all for taking up this duty.



UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER 11

- Columbus Day – NO SCHOOL

TBD

- Thanksgiving Food Drive (end of October/beginning of November)

NOVEMBER 16

- Faith Family Fun Night with reconciliation at 6:00 pm at St. Damian



CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

Grade 1:

First grade is off to a great start this year. The first thing we started with this year is following along in Church. Everyone has a seventh-grade buddy to help them out, and everyone has done a good job participating in Mass.

In the classroom, we have learned about God's gifts for us, and how we can take care of those gifts. We also started working on our prayers. So far, we have practiced the sign of the cross, and started the Glory Be. We will add more prayers as the year goes on.

-Josh Wieter

Grade 2:

In 2nd grade, we started preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

We began learning about the story of Adam and Eve and the temptation in the garden.

We also are learning the 10 commandments.

-Robbin Netemeyer and Kaitlyn Toennies

Grade 3:

Welcome to Grade 3 Faith Formation! The students have been eager to participate, yet patient with taking turns with their friends.

We have been busy with Chapters 1 and 2 (story of Creation and the Church Community). They enjoyed playing Creation bingo as we finished Chapter 1. Finishing up Chapter 2 coincided with our faith community's Wurstmart.

We will be spending some time reviewing prayers as we continue with Chapters 3 (At Home with God—family) and 4 (the Holy Trinity). I hope you're getting to see a few of the papers that they've completed. 😊

Please call/text 618-660-5974 or email me if you have any questions/concerns.

-Kathy Engelmann

Grade 4:

4th grade is doing amazing!! We have been focused on memorizing the 10 Commandments and learning the Books of the Bible. Likewise, I've learned so much from them. I feel extremely blessed to be their teacher!

-Brooke Zurliene and Judy Albers

Grade 5:

The 5th grade students in their first full month of school have been learning about: Grace, what it means to be made in the image of God, along with prayer and how it connects us as a community of faith.

Next month, since it is the month of the Rosary, the class will be reviewing and going over: The Anatomy of the Rosary, the mysteries that are prayed during the Rosary, and when the Church uses the Rosary.

We will more than likely go over some of the well-known and lesser-known Saints, leading up to All Saints and All Souls Day.

“True happiness is to rejoice in the truth, for to rejoice in the truth is to rejoice in You, O God, who are the truth... Those who think that there is another kind of happiness look for joy elsewhere, but theirs is not true joy.”

-St. Augustine

-John Hilmes

Grade 6:

I am excited to continue furthering my sixth graders education and faith towards Jesus.

They just started a project where they design a superhero based on a bible character.

-Reagan Rickhoff

Grade 7:

Looking forward to a wonderful year in the Faith Formation.

The seventh grade are continuing their journey toward the great milestone of Christianity of Confirmation (next year).

Currently, we are taking the opportunity to watch Chosen. This is the story of Christ's calling of the twelve. The characters in this story are portrayed in a multi-dimensional way that gives the flavor of great truth.

We have started working from the book and we have been reviewing the seventh grade Faith Formation expectations.

We are also reviewing the Rosary, Mass schedules, and ministry opportunities such as serving and lecturing.

-Dana Lake

I believe though I do not comprehend, and I hold by Faith what I cannot grasp with the mind!

-St. Bernard of Clairvoux

Grade 8:

The 8th grade students began the year reviewing and learning prayers we use in Sunday Mass, such as the Nicene Creed and Apostles' Creed. They are learning about having faith and professing their beliefs when they pray these creeds.

The students are strengthening their faith by learning more about the life of Jesus and his disciples through watching the series, The Chosen.

They are learning to make good choices, to consider consequences, the importance of being kind, and displaying good behavior by utilizing the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit.

The 8th grade students are preparing the Church for weekday Masses, serving at Mass, and reading during these services.

-Jamie Jung and Kelly Jansen

FATHER STEVEN'S GUIDANCE

"Knowing about" someone vs. Knowing Someone

I know a lot about Winston Churchill. I got interested in him several years ago and made it a reading project. I read Churchill's seven-volume history of the Second World War. I read a three-volume biography of him. I'm not quite sure what got into me but after months had passed, and while reading plenty of other things alongside, I must have read three to four thousand pages at least. I know a lot about Winston Churchill. Many others know even more about him. Some people have encyclopedic knowledge about Abraham Lincoln, or Napoleon, or, for that matter, any number of Kardashians.

This kind of knowledge about someone is relatively easy to acquire and relatively easy to teach. You can present the information, test to assess comprehension and retention, and hey presto, your student knows about some important figure the way I know about Churchill. It's crucial, it's absolutely critical, that we teach our kids about Jesus of Nazareth. That they know about Him as a historically real figure, reliably known to us through the Gospels. No one can follow Jesus if they don't know about Him.

And yet... and yet, while knowing about Jesus is necessary, it just isn't enough. It's essential to getting to our goal, but it isn't our goal. I'm satisfied knowing about Lincoln or Churchill. I'm even more satisfied not knowing the first thing about any Kardashian. But I wouldn't say I know Winston Churchill. That's a different thing, and that's what we're after in raising up disciples of Christ. The mission isn't complete when they know about Jesus. The mission is complete when they know Jesus. When they've met Him, encountered Him, alive and powerful.

This is harder to do. In fact, we don't really "do" it at all. There's no process or flowchart that can reliably produce the desired outcome. Our job as formators, teachers, pastors, parents, is to arrange the meeting. To make the introductions. To do anything and everything in our power to encourage that relationship. In the end, it's up to them; no one can force a relationship between anyone else. But we can share our own relationship, witness to its power and importance in our lives, and encourage the all-important encounter between Jesus and the children He has called to be His.

-Fr. Steven Beatty

THE DEACON'S CORNER

The Twelve Apostles of Christ

*Jesus Christ selected the 12 apostles from among his early followers to become his closest companions. After an intensive discipleship course and following his resurrection from the dead, the Lord fully commissioned the apostles (**Matthew 28:16-2, Mark 16:15**) to advance God's kingdom and carry the Gospel message to the world.*

*We find the names of the 12 disciples in **Matthew 10:2-4, Mark 3:14-19, and Luke 6:13-16**. These men became the pioneering leaders of the New Testament church, but they were not without faults and shortcomings. Interestingly, not one of the chosen apostles was a scholar or rabbi. These men had no extraordinary skills. Neither religious nor refined. They were ordinary people, just like you and me.*

*But God chose them for a purpose — to fan the flames of the Gospel that would spread across the face of the earth and continue to burn bright throughout centuries to follow. God selected and used each of these regular guys to carry out his exceptional plan.
(Mary Fairchild)*

Does your home or classroom have a patron Saint? Here are some websites about Saints.

www.catholic.org/saints

www.newadvent.org

www.mycatholic.life/saints

www.info.franciscanmedia.org/saints

Just an added note of the **importance of the children coming to Mass regularly on weekends with their families.** On weekdays they attend Mass during Faith Formation sessions, but the children need to pray with their moms and dads at Mass also on the weekends. Praying together strengthens a family in more ways than we'll ever realize!!!! **Joshua says', "as for me and my house, we will serve God."**

Thank you for bringing the children to Mass!

-Deacon Glenn

"May you always be doing those good, kind things that show you are a child of God." Phil 1:11

HISPANIC MINISTRY

The last Sunday of September is Migration Sunday when we consider how many people around the world – either as migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers – have left their homes for safety, freedom and/or opportunity.

What do you know about when and how your family came to be where you now call home?

My family came from northern Germany in 1842 and found a new home in St. Charles County, Missouri. One great-grand-mother came from Ireland. There were religious reasons as well as economic ones and a hope for a better future.

In October, when we celebrate Columbus Day, or Día de la Raza, we recall the blending of the people of the Americas with those of Europe (Spain, Portugal, France and England) who would lay claim to parts of the "new world", even though established cultures were here to meet them.

Perhaps you could take some time to explore your family's migration history.

El último domingo de septiembre es Domingo de migración cuando podemos considerar los miles de personas alrededor del mundo – como migrantes, refugiados o gente buscando asilo – dejaron su hogar para seguridad, libertad y/o oportunidad.

¿Qué sabes del cuándo y cómo tu familia vino a vivir donde ahora tienes tu casa?

Mi familia vino del norte de Alemania en 1842 y encontró un nuevo lugar en el condado de S. Carlos, Missouri. Una bisabuela vino de Irlanda. Vinieron por motivos religiosos y también económicos y mas que todo con esperanza para un futuro mejor.

En octubre cuando celebramos el día de Cristóbal Colon, o Dia de la Raza, recordamos la mezcla de la gente de las Américas con los de Europa (España, Portugal, Francia e Inglaterra) quienes reclamarían partes del "mundo nuevo" a pesar de que culturas establecidas estaban a darles la bienvenida.

¡Quizá podrían tomar tiempo de platicar de tu historia familiar como migrantes!

-Sister Ellen Orf

FAITH FORMATION EXPECTATIONS

The expectations of the Faith Formation Program can be found on the final two pages of this newsletter.



Expectations of Kindergarten

Sign of the Cross

Our Father

Hail Mary

Meal Prayers

**Glory Be
Angel of God

** If time

Expectations of Grade 1

Sign of the Cross

Our Father

Hail Mary

Glory Be

Angel of God

Meal Prayers

Expectations of Grade 2

Sign of the Cross

Our Father

Hail Mary

Glory Be

Meal Prayers

Angel of God

Act of Contrition

Parts of the Mass

Expectations of Grade 3

Sign of the Cross

Our Father

Hail Mary

Glory Be

Angel of God

Meal Prayers

Act of Contrition

Parts of the Mass

Apostles Creed

The Church and its Marks

Names of Pope, Bishop, Deacon
and Pastor

Expectations of Grade 4

Law of Love/Great Comm.

Ten Commandments

Books of the Bible

Review:

*Names of Pope, Bishop
and Pastor

*Church and its Marks

* Parts of the Mass

*Act of Contrition

*Apostles Creed

*Our Father

*Hail Mary

*Glory Be

*Sign of the Cross

*Angel of God

Expectations of Gr. 5

Catholic Seven

The Rosary

Seasons of Church Yr.

Seven Sacraments

Summary of Bible

Review:

*Books of the Bible

*Law of Love/Great

Commandment

*Ten Commandments

*Names of Pope, Bishop
and Pastor

*The Church and its

Marks

*Parts of the Mass

* Act of Contrition

*Meal Prayers

Expectations of Grade 6

Four Gospel Writers

Books of the Bible

Holy Days of Obligation

Summary of Bible with "Seven"

Review:

*The Rosary

*Seasons of the Church

Year

* Seven Sacraments

*Ten Commandments

*Names of Pope,

Bishop, Pastor, and Deacon

*Parts of the Mass

*Law of Love

*Church and its Marks

*Apostles Creed

Expectations of Grade 7

Summary of Bible

Nicene Creed

Works of Mercy

Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Review:

- *Some books of Bible
- * 4 Gospel Writers
- *Holy Days of Obligation
- *The Rosary
- * Seasons of the Church Yr.
- *Seven Sacraments
- *Ten Commandments
- * Name of Pope, Bishop and Pastor

Expectations of Grade 8

Beatitudes

Laws of the Church

Summary of Bible

Review:

- *Apostles Creed
- *Gifts of the Holy Spirit
- *Nicene Creed
- *Works of Mercy
- *Some Books of the Bible
- *4 Gospel Writers
- *Holy Days of Obligation
- *The Rosary
- *Seasons of the Church Year
- *Ten Commandments
- *Law of Love
- *The Church and its Marks
- *Parts of the Mass
- *Act of Contrition

Mass Expectations:

1. 2 and 3 grades-
Vocation Prayer
before Mass
2. 4 Prepare for serving
3. 5, 6, 7, and 8.
Lector, serving and
Cantoring.

**All classes take turns
as Mass host.**