

Updates for the 2012 - 2013 Religious Education School Year

It is a **joy, privilege, and an important responsibility** to share the treasure of the Catholic faith with others. As **disciples** of Jesus Christ worshipping at Holy Family Parish, we do this by the witness of our deeds and by the witness of our words. We seek to become better witnesses by growing in worship and prayer, continually learning more about what it means to be Catholic, and deepening our relationships in the community of faith. The Religious Education Class Gatherings are meant to supplement regular Mass attendance and your family's spirituality (such as prayers with children, meal graces, etc).

In its ongoing commitment to help all parishioners to grow in their faith, Holy Family Parish offers a variety of educational, spiritual and service opportunities for all ages. *To provide a solid foundation for the younger members of the parish* to understand the richness of the Catholic way of life, we offer **Religious Education Class Gatherings** for students in Kindergarten through High School Level 2.

What is Holy Family Parish doing to provide an outstanding learning experience?

- **Recruiting faith-filled parishioners** who voluntarily take an active leadership role in sharing our Catholic faith with your children, reinforcing what you are already doing in your home.
- **Equipping** those leaders with **resources, technology, and support** in order to provide the best learning experience for your family.
- Useful **communication before and after** the class gatherings, enabling you to supplement what happens during the limited class time (approximately 75 minutes for 15 gatherings per year).
- Continuing to **evaluate** and striving to **improve** our program in order to reach as many people as we can with the good news of Jesus Christ. Your ideas, feedback, and suggestions are always welcome.

What was new in 2011-2012?

- ✓ Responding to feedback received, **we modified our First Reconciliation / First Eucharist preparation** programs in order to better partner with families in the journey of sacramental preparation.
- ✓ We **continue to develop our Peer Ministry program** for high school students who have been confirmed, that they might experience leadership development in addition to assisting with our high school program.
- ✓ Our **offerings for Adult Faith Formation continue to grow**, providing topics of substance with great speakers from our region and beyond. More information for each event or series will be available through the parish website, bulletin, and delivered by e-mail.
- ✓ The Faith Formation Commission continues to **evaluate our programs and mission** to best meet the needs of all parishioners in the Holy Family community.

Priority Placement in Registration - Participation from Each Family

First priority is given to the children of adults who volunteer in a full-year role. There are both teaching and non-teaching roles available. Since we aim to have as many families participate as possible, please contact the parish office so we can engage in a pressure-free conversation about your interests, gifts, and time availability.

Your registration NOW will assist YOU in receiving your preferred day and time for your children's religious education class gatherings (class spaces are limited). By registering now, you will assist our planning and preparations, so that we will be ready to welcome your children in September. *Registration changes are possible as space allows.* Registrations are processed in the order in which we receive them.

Please Contact Us - We would be happy to *answer any questions or address any concerns* you have when you contact the Faith Formation staff at 978-369-0071 or through the Parish Office at 978-369-7442.

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