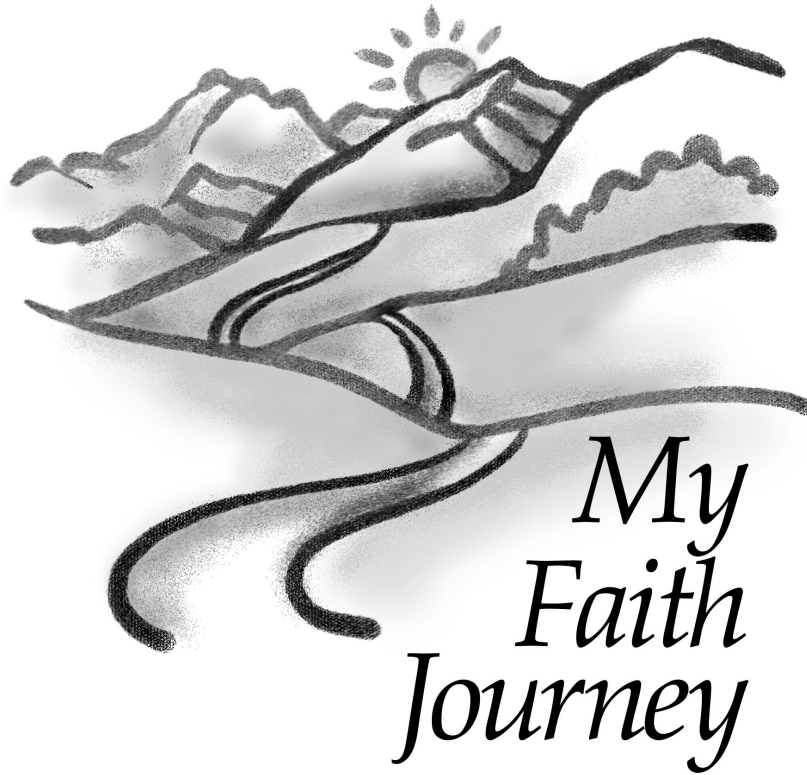


**S t . C h a r l e s
P a r i s h**



**Faith Formation/Youth Ministry
Handbook**

for

Summer and Fall

2011—2012

Dear Parents:

You are the primary means of passing on the faith to your children as you assist them in their growth as Catholic Christians in today's world.

We at St. Charles Parish have the privilege of encouraging, supporting, and affirming you in this challenging, but gratifying role. We will do our best to provide enriching programs that are based on Scripture and the Tradition of our Church and to present these programs in a spirit of caring for and serving others.

We welcome you to our programs for 2011-2012 as, together, we learn and live the treasure of our faith with our children and teens on the life-long journey of becoming disciples of Christ.

Yours in Christ,

Jan Murphy, Director of Religious Education (PS-Grade 8)

murphyj@archmil.org

Andrew Schueller, Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries

schuellera@archmil.org

Samantha Luedtke, Associate Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries

Jill Kamin, Program Assistant

Religious Education/Youth Ministry Office

262-367-3277

Jan (Ext. 205), Andrew (Ext. 221), Sam (Ext. 222), Jill (Ext. 219)



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MISSION STATEMENT

We will search for and develop the best means available to impart the message of Christ in the St. Charles Faith Formation Programs for Preschool through High School so that, through a lifelong process of learning about their faith, the young people will experience personal conversion, growth in spirituality, a foundation for living as Catholic Christians in today's world, and integration into the faith life of the parish community.

WHAT DO THOSE INITIALS MEAN?

Many families say they are sending their children to "CCD". What does that mean?

The initials "CCD" stand for "Confraternity of Christian Doctrine". It was originally a religious education program for adults studying to convert to the Catholic faith. In 1905, Pope Pius X recommended that it be established in every Catholic parish. A confraternity of Christian Doctrine is now a shared effort to hand on the faith to adults as well as to students who attend public schools and so do not have a class in religious formation as part of their daily class schedule.

At St. Charles, we prefer not to use the term "CCD" because it is too "one dimensional" a term. It is important to learn the facts about our faith, but it is also important to incorporate faith into our daily lives as part of an ongoing process, as indicated in the mission statement.

P O L I C Y I N F O R M A T I O N

ATTENDANCE INFORMATION FOR PRE-SCHOOL—GRADE 8

If students cannot attend a class, please call the Faith Formation Office at 262-367-3277 to notify us. Please leave a message if no one answers the phone personally.

Students in Grades 1-8 are asked to bring a note stating the reason for absences and requesting that make-up work be sent home.

If students need to be excused from class before the regular dismissal time, please send a note to the teacher and to the office, stating where you will meet your child. Please come into the building to meet your child. This procedure is to help ensure the safety of your children.

CLASS CANCELLATION

Whenever St. Charles School closes for inclement weather or other emergency situations, all-day, after-school, and evening activities for the entire parish will be cancelled (with the possible exception of religious services).

The above policy affects the Wednesday evening Religious Education classes/Youth Ministry activities.

COMMUNICATIONS

If you have questions or concerns about specific **classroom** activities or policies, or if you have questions or concerns about our programs in general, please phone or email us.

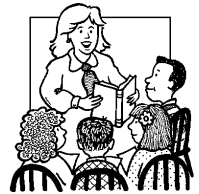
CONDUCT EXPECTATIONS

All human beings are created in the image and likeness of God and are precious in the eyes of God; therefore we would expect your children and teens to respect their teachers, classmates, and themselves at all times. Respectful behavior will affirm the dignity of each person, will enable maximum learning to take place and will present a favorable perception of how young people behave to our parish community.

We ask that parents encourage a positive and purposeful attitude toward Faith Formation sessions and Youth Ministry activities. Let your children and teens know that respectful behavior and active participation is expected of them by you and by us.

We will give your children and teens every opportunity to practice Christian behavior here at St. Charles; however, we will notify you if they show continuing patterns of disruptive or disrespectful behavior, so we can work with you to solve any problems and encourage positive behavior.

Guidelines for Classroom Behavior for Pre-school — Grade 8



Students in each classroom will follow the specific rules agreed on by the teacher and the class as a whole.

Students will also abide by some general policies for all Religious Education students as follows:

- Sports clothes are acceptable attire for classes. Because the children may sometimes be in church, slogans on shirts need to be in good taste, such as sports team shirts or plain colored shirts. Caps are to be removed when in the building, and outdoor clothing is to be kept on the hooks/shelf next to your classroom.
- Students are to please leave I-PODS, cell phones, skateboards, in-line skates, and "toys" of any kind at home. (They are a distraction in class and a temptation to others.)
- Students are to refrain from chewing gum and snacking at times other than snack times agreed upon within each classroom. (Please let us know if there is a special need due to health problems.)
- Students are to respect the property of St. Charles Parish, including the restrooms, the classrooms, and especially the items in the desks of the St. Charles School Students.
- Most importantly, students need to speak to and treat one another and their teachers in a respectful, Christian manner at all times.

SACRAMENT PROGRAMS



First Reconciliation

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated for the first time when children are in Grade 2. The children are prepared for the Sacrament of Reconciliation during their regular Religious Education classes, which are held on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. The first semester (September - December) is spent in preparation for this sacrament, since it is celebrated prior to First Eucharist, according to the sacramental guidelines for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee.

A Parent Meeting is held in October to present Church teaching about the Sacrament of Reconciliation, to discuss how the sacrament is presented to the children, and to work out details for the celebration of the sacrament, which usually occurs on the first or second Saturday in December.



First Communion

The Sacrament of the Eucharist is also celebrated for the first time when children are in Grade 2. The second semester (January - April) is spent in preparing the children for this sacrament during their regular Religious Education classes on Wednesday evenings.

A Parent Meeting is held (usually in February) to present Church teaching about the sacrament and to acquaint parents with the methods of presentation. Time is provided for asking questions and for making necessary arrangements for the celebration of First Communion. First Communion is celebrated during the regularly scheduled Parish Masses. Families choose the date/time for their child's First Communion. (Please check the Faith Formation Calendar for the weekends and Mass times that First Communion will be celebrated.)

According to the guidelines of the Parish, it is expected that children will have completed Grade 1 Religious Education before they are enrolled in the First Reconciliation and First Eucharist classes of Grade 2.

Special Preparation Opportunities for Sacraments

1. Please contact the DRE (PS-Grade 8) for specific information regarding children beyond Grade 2 who have not yet celebrated First Reconciliation and/or First Communion.
2. Please contact the DRE (PS-Grade 8) for specific information regarding children beyond the age of seven who have not yet been baptized.
These children participate in the process of Christian Initiation.
This process unfolds in stages, with the children getting to know Jesus and build a friendship with Him, gaining knowledge about what Catholics believe, praying and celebrating rites with a small group or the parish community, and being supported by their peer group, parents, sponsors, and godparents. The end goal of the initiation process is to celebrate all three Sacraments of Initiation- - -Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist- - -at one time, usually at the Easter Vigil.
3. It is ideal to prepare children for the sacraments within the context of the parish school or religious education programs. However, we also welcome those who home school their children and strive to make them feel a part of our parish process and community. Please contact the DRE (PS-Grade 8) for details.
4. We also welcome children with special needs, such as Down Syndrome, ADHD, learning disabilities, etc. We work closely with parents to help these children prepare for and celebrate the sacraments and/or participate in the regular programs at the level of which they are capable.



Confirmation

The Sacrament of Confirmation is celebrated in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee when students reach the age of sixteen - - - usually coinciding with Grade 11 or Juniors in high school.

Preparation includes participation in the Confirmation Preparation Sessions, attending a weekend retreat, meetings with sponsors, service projects and submission of all documentation required by the Archdiocese of Milwaukee.

Students who attend Catholic high schools are asked to enroll in the Parish Confirmation Preparation Program as Juniors.

Please refer to page 9 of this handbook for preparation details for Confirmation.

CURRICULUM/ACTIVITY INFORMATION



The curriculum for all ages/grade levels of Faith Formation strives to promote a balance between "knowing about and being able to articulate the faith" and "making faith a lived reality or part of everyday life."

In our programs we use up-to-date materials that are consistent with the Catechism of the Catholic Church, the National Catechetical Directory, and guidelines from the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. Materials are prepared and arranged so that they are easily presented by our many volunteer catechists.

Following is a brief summary of the content of the curriculum for each grade level. More detailed information is sent home with the students when classes begin. We also welcome your questions regarding curriculum, and invite you to stop at the Religious Education and Youth Ministry offices to discuss our materials.

PRE-SCHOOL, KINDERGARTEN

These classes use materials prepared by RCL / Benziger. The children in Pre-school and Kindergarten are encouraged to discover and explore the wonders of God in the world around them, in themselves, their families, their friends, and in the special gift of Jesus.

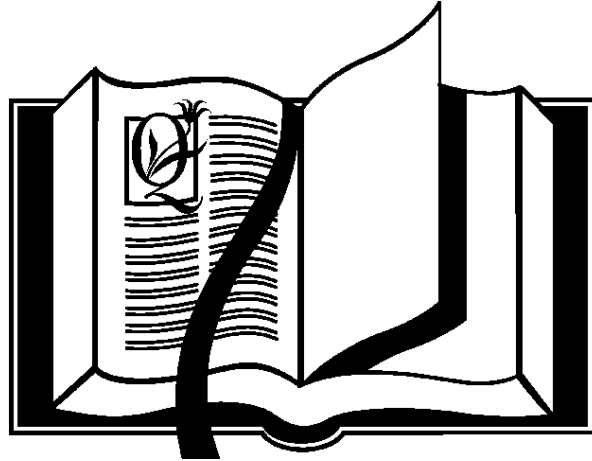


GRADES 1-8 gain specific abilities and experiences appropriate to their grade level, which include:

1. History/Creed/Church (*basic doctrines, dogmas, beliefs of the Church*)
2. Moral Life (*moral values contained in the Commandments and Beatitudes*)
3. Liturgy/Sacraments/Prayer (*Liturgical Seasons of the Church Year, Seven Sacraments, traditional prayers, spontaneous prayer, Mary and the Saints*)
4. Scripture (*skills in using the Bible and specific passages that can be learned and applied at each grade level*)
5. Life Experiences

Parents receive Catholic Parent Know-How pamphlets corresponding to their children's grade levels. These pamphlets are designed to help parents be an active part of their children's faith formation by:

- Giving them adult-level information on what their children are learning.
- Providing information about child development and how it relates to growth in faith.
- Offering practical advice on sharing the faith in everyday family life.



**FAITH
FORMATION
CALENDAR
2011 - 2012
Preschool - Grade 8**

The purpose of the calendar is to help you plan ahead as your family schedules school, sports, work, and family activities for the next school year. We encourage you to share this calendar information with the organizers of various activities to avoid as many conflicts as possible with faith formation activities.

For your convenience we have prepared the calendar so that you can highlight the dates that apply to your family.

SUMMER PROGRAM



<p><u>Monday, July 18th - Friday, July 22nd</u> (8:30 - 11:30 AM)</p> <p>Classes for: Grade 1 Grades 3-6 Grades 7-8 (Junior High)</p> <p><u>Monday, July 25th - Thursday, July 28th</u> (8:30 - 11:30 AM)</p> <p>Classes continue for: Grade 1 Grades 3-6 Grades 7-8 (Junior High)</p>	<p><u>Saturday, November 5th</u> (9:30 - 11:00 AM) <i>and</i> <u>Saturday, March 3th</u> (9:30 - 11:00 AM)</p> <p><u>Seasonal Classes for:</u> Grades 3-6 and Family Session</p> <p><i>Grades 7-8 are not expected to attend the two Saturday Sessions. They each attend a Day of Reflection (noted in calendar) and one extra activity (noted in calendar and chosen by students when classes begin)</i></p>
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The Summer Program is an alternative to the Fall Program for those families who may find this a more convenient option. Please be aware, however, that there are a few activities that the summer students are asked to attend along with the students in the Fall Program. Please note these carefully, and plan your weekends accordingly.

Grade 2 is not offered in summer because of special preparation needs for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist.

SUMMER CLASSROOM ASSIGNMENTS

Please check class lists posted in the hallways and outside the classrooms to find your specific room number if more than one room is listed for a grade.

- Grade 1-----Room 206 (upper level)
- Grade 3-----Room 205 (upper level)
- Grade 4-----Room 211 (upper level)
- Grade 5-----Room 212 (upper level)
- Grade 6-----Room 106 (lower level)
- Grades 7-8 A-----Room 102 (lower level)
- Grades 7-8 B-----Room 105 (lower level)
- Grades 7-8 C-----Room 104 (lower level)

SEPTEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5 Labor Day	6	7 Gr. 2-8 (6:30-7:30)	8	9 Fallfest	10 Fallfest
11 Fallfest	12	13	14 Gr. 2-8 (6:30-7:30)	15	16	17 Catechetical Sunday Weekend—blessing of catechists at 5:00 p.m. Mass
18 Blessing of Catechists at all Masses Gr. 3-8 (10:15-11:45)	19	20	21 Gr. 2-8 (6:30-7:30)	22	23	24
25 Gr. 3-8 (10:15-11:45)	26	27	28 Gr. 2-8 (6:30-7:30)	29	30	

OCTOBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 PS/Kn/Gr. 1 (9:00-10:00) Gr.3-8 (10:15-11:45)	3	4	5 Gr. 2-8 (6:30-7:30) and Parent Session for 1st Reconciliation (option 1)	6	7	8
9 PS/Kn/Gr. 1 (9:00-10:00) Gr.3-6 (10:15-11:45)	10	11	12 Gr. 2-8 (6:30-7:30) and Parent Session for 1st Reconciliation (option 2)	13	14	15
16 PS/Kn/Gr. 1 (9:00-10:00) Gr.3-6 (10:15-11:45) “Teacher for a Day” Activity Choice for Gr.7-8 (10:00 a.m.-Noon)	17	18	19 Gr. 2-8 (6:30-7:30) Reconciliation video for Gr. 2 and Parents	20	21	22
23	24	25	26 No Classes (Teacher’s Convention Break)	27	28	29
30	31					

NOVEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2 Gr. 2-8 (6:30-7:30)	3	4	5 Seasonal Class for Gr. 3-6 Summer Students with Family Session (9:30-11:00 a.m.)
6 PS/Kn/Gr. 1 (9:00-10:00) Gr.3-8 (10:15-11:45) with Family Session for Grades 3-6	7	8	9 Gr. 2-8 (6:30-7:30) with Family Session for Gr. 3-8	10	11	12
13 PS/Kn/Gr. 1 (9:00-10:00) Gr.3-6 (10:15-11:45)	14	15	16 Gr. 2-8 (6:30-7:30)	17	18	19
20 PS/Kn/Gr. 1 (9:00-10:00) Gr.3-8 (10:15-11:45)	21	22	23 No Classes (Thanksgiving Break)	24 Thanksgiving	25	26
27 No Classes (Thanksgiving Break)	28	29	30 Gr. 2-8 (6:30-7:30)			

DECEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3 Celebration of First Reconciliation 10:00 a.m. & 12:45 p.m.
4 PS/Kn/Gr. 1 (9:00-10:00) Gr.3-8 (10:15-11:45)	5	6	7 Gr. 2-8 (6:30-7:30)	8	9	10
11 PS/Kn/Gr. 1 (9:00-10:00) Gr.3-6 (10:15-11:45)	12	13	14 Gr. 2-8 (6:30-7:30)	15	16	17
18 PS/Kn/Gr. 1 (9:00-10:00) Gr.3-8 (10:15-11:45)	19	20	21 No Classes (Christmas Break)	22	23	24
25 No Classes (Christmas Break)	26	27	28 No Classes (Christmas Break)	29	30	31

JANUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 No Classes (Christmas Break)	2	3	4 Gr. 2-8 (6:30-7:30)	5	6	7
8 PS/Kn/Gr. 1 (9:00-10:00) Gr.3-8 (10:15-11:45)	9	10	11 Gr. 2-8 (6:30-7:30)	12	13	14 Ceremony of Dedication and Blessing for Gr. 2 at the 5:00 p.m. Mass
15 PS/Kn/Gr. 1 (9:00-10:00) Gr.3-6 (10:15-11:45) Ceremony of Dedication and Blessing for Gr. 2 at all Masses	16	17	18 Gr. 2-8 (6:30-7:30)	19	20	21
22 PS/Kn/Gr. 1 (9:00-10:00) Gr.3-8 (10:15-11:45)	23	24	25 Gr. 2-8 (6:30-7:30)	26	27	28
29 "SPY" Special Activity Choice for Gr. 7-8 (10:00 a.m.-Noon)	30	31				

FEBRUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Gr. 2-8 (6:30-7:30)	2	3	4
5 PS/Kn/Gr. 1 (9:00-10:00) Gr.3-8 (10:15-11:45)	6	7	8 Gr. 2-8 (6:30-7:30) and Parent Session for First Communion (option 1)	9	10	11
12 PS/Kn/Gr. 1 (9:00-10:00) Gr.3-6 (10:15-11:45)	13	14	15 Gr. 2-8 (6:30-7:30) and Parent Session for First Communion (option 2)	16	17	18
19 PS/Kn/Gr. 1 (9:00-10:00) Gr.3-8 (10:15-11:45)	20	21	22 Gr. 2-8 (6:30-7:30) Ash Wednesday	23	24	25
26 Gr. 7 Day of Reflection (10:00 a.m.-Noon)	27	28	29 Gr. 2-8 (6:30-7:30)			

MARCH

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3 Seasonal Class for Gr. 3-6 Summer students with Family Session (9:30-11:00 a.m.)
4 PS/Kn/Gr. 1 (9:00-10:00) Gr.3-8 (10:15-11:45) with Family Session for Gr. 3-6	5	6	7 Gr. 2-8 (6:30-7:30) with Family Session for Gr. 3-6	8	9	10
11 PS/Kn/Gr. 1 (9:00-10:00) Gr.3-6 (10:15-11:45)	12	13	14 Gr. 2-8 (6:30-7:30)	15	16	17
18 PS/Kn/Gr. 1 (9:00-10:00) Gr.3-8 (10:15-11:45)	19	20	21 Gr. 2-8 (6:30-7:30)	22	23	24
25 Gr. 8-Day of Reflection (10:00 a.m. –Noon)	26	27	28 Gr. 2-8 (6:30-7:30)	29	30	

APRIL

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 PS/Kn/Gr. 1 (9:00-10:00) Gr.3-8 (10:15-11:45) Palm Sunday	2	3	4 Gr. 2-8 (6:30-7:30)	5	6	7
8 No Classes (Easter)	9	10	11 No Classes (Easter break)	12	13	14
15	16 "Prayer Tour" Special Activity for Gr. 7-8 (6:30-8:30 p.m.)	17	18 Gr. 2-8 (6:30-7:30)	19	20	21 Registration for 2012-2013 (6:00-7:00 p.m.)
22 PS/Kn/Gr. 1 (9:00-10:00)	23	24	25 Gr. 2-8 (6:30-7:30) and First Communion Practice	26	27	28 Celebration of First Communion at 5:00 p.m. Mass
29 PS/Kn/Gr. 1 (9:00-10:00) Celebration of First Communion at 9:00 & 10:30 a.m. Masses)	30					

MAY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2 Gr. 2-6 (6:30-7:30) and First Communion Practice	3	4	5 Celebration of First Communion (5:00 p.m. Mass)
6 PS/Kn/Gr. 1 (9:00-10:00) Celebration of First Communion at 9:00 & 10:30 a.m. Masses)	7	8	9 Gr. 2-6 (6:30-7:30) and First Communion Practice	10	11	12 Celebration of First Communion (5:00 p.m. Mass)
13 Celebration of First Communion (10:30 a.m. Mass)	14	15	16 Gr. 2-6 (6:30-7:30)	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

We hope that the Key Dates / Events from the calendar which are listed on the following pages will be helpful to you.

KEY DATES



Wednesday, October 5 (6:30-7:30 p.m.)	Grade 2	Parent Session for First Reconciliation (Option 1)
Wednesday, October 12 (6:30-7:30 p.m.)	Grade 2	Parent Session for First Reconciliation (Option 2)
Saturday, November 5 (9:30-11:00 a.m.)	Grades 3-6 (Summer Students)	Seasonal Class and Family Session
Sunday, November 6 (10:15-11:45 a.m.)	Grades 3-6	Family Session
Wednesday, November 9 (6:30-7:45 p.m.)	Grades 3-8	Family Session
Saturday, December 3 (10:00 a.m. session and 12:45 p.m. session)	Grade 2	Celebration of First Reconciliation
Saturday, January 14 and Sunday, January 15 (at 5:00 Mass and all morning Masses)	Grade 2	Ceremony of Dedication and Blessing

Wednesday, February 8 (6:30-7:30 p.m.)	Grade 2	Parent Session for First Communion (Option 1)
Wednesday, February 15 (6:30—7:30 p.m.)	Grade 2	Parent Session for First Communion (Option 2)
Sunday, February 26 (10:00 a.m.-Noon)	Grade 7 (<u>All</u> Summer and Fall Students)	Day of Reflection
Saturday, March 3 (9:30—11:00 a.m.)	Grades 3—6 (Summer Students)	Family Session
Sunday, March 4 (10:00-11:45 a.m.)	Grades 3-6	Family Session
Sunday, March 25 (10:00 a.m.-Noon)	Grade 8 (<u>All</u> Summer and Fall Students)	Day of Reflection
Saturday, April 21 (6:00—7:00 p.m.)		Religious Ed Registration for 2012-2013
Saturday, April 28 (5:00 p.m. Mass) Sunday, April 29 (9:00 & 10:30 a.m. Mass)	Grade 2	Celebration of First Communion
Saturday, May 5 (5:00 p.m. Mass) Sunday, May 6 (9:00 & 10:30 a.m. Mass)	Grade 2	Celebration of First Communion
Saturday, May 12 (5:00 p.m. Mass) Sunday, May 13 (10:30 a.m. Mass)	Grade 2	Celebration of First Communion



Students in Grades 1, 3, 4, 5 and 6 use materials from **Blest Are We, Faith and Word** published by RCL Benziger. There is emphasis on a specific theme for each grade.

FIRST GRADERS are introduced to the basic teachings about the Blessed Trinity. They discover much about God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

"Fundamentals" (Catholic Parent Know-How pamphlet)

SECOND GRADERS use two separate textbooks during their year of preparation for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist published by Loyola Press. **God's Gift: Reconciliation** will be used during the first semester and **God's Gift: Eucharist** will be used during the second semester. The children in Grade 2 at St. Charles School use the same materials because the sacraments are considered Parish celebrations rather than separate School celebrations and Religious Education celebrations.

"Preparing Your Child for First Reconciliation" (Catholic Parent Know-How pamphlet)

"Preparing Your Child for First Communion" (Catholic Parent Know-How pamphlet)

THIRD GRADERS focus on the Church. They learn the marks of the Catholic Church, the creeds of the Church, and the Church as a praying, celebrating, caring, and ministering community.

"Church" (Catholic Parent Know-How pamphlet)

FOURTH GRADERS learn about the Church's rich tradition of moral example and teaching, which provides the basis for their own moral development. Focus is on the Commandments and the Beatitudes. A more in-depth study of the Sacrament of Reconciliation than that presented in Grade 2 is also a part of their program. Students celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation during a regularly scheduled class time.

"Morality" (Catholic Parent Know-How pamphlet)

FIFTH GRADERS study the sacramental life of the Church. Basic concepts about the seven sacraments are reinforced, and new aspects are presented. They also learn that the Church is the sign of Christ in the world. They discover the difference that Jesus makes in our lives.

"Sacraments" (Catholic Parent Know-How pamphlet)

SIXTH GRADERS learn what the Bible is, where it came from, how to use it, and how it can relate to their own life. They learn the story of the people of Israel as recorded in the Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament) and the major themes of these Scriptures.

"Scripture" (Catholic Parent Know-How pamphlet)

FAMILY SESSIONS

Grades 3-6 from the Summer Classes, Sunday Classes, and Wednesday Classes have a Family Session scheduled once during the fall semester and once during the spring semester. Parents are invited to attend an adult class on the same subject that the students study in their classes. Students and parents gather for faith sharing and closing prayer at the end of the session. These sessions are noted in the detailed calendar.



JUNIOR HIGH

GRADES 7-8 (Junior High):

The curriculum for Grades 7-8 is published by Our Sunday Visitor. Specific themes are presented in individual “Call to Faith” Faith Booklets. Each Faith Booklet includes Catholic doctrine, Scripture, People of Faith, and Catholics today information.

For the 2011-2012 school year the Faith Booklet, **Jesus Christ**, will be used. It includes:

- Incarnation
- Jesus, Model of Wisdom
- Jesus’ Relationships
- Christ Our Savior
- Christ Offers Life
- The Church—One in Christ

Most of the students know about the major events of Jesus’ life, some of the parables that he taught, and some of the doctrines of the Church that flow from an understanding of the teachings of Jesus. **Knowledge about** Jesus doesn’t guarantee that students have met Jesus on a **personal** level or consider Jesus an important part of their lives. Hopefully, they will grow in their relationship with Jesus this year.

A second Faith Booklet, **Sacraments**, will also be used. It includes:

- Worship and Grace
- Christ With Us
- Initiation in Christ
- Forgiveness and Healing
- Faithful Living
- The Church Year

The Bible and The Catholic Connections Handbook for Middle Schoolers are extra tools for study used by the students. The handbook is a guide for young teens on what it means to follow Jesus and to be Catholic in today’s world. The “Live It!” articles in the handbook suggest ways to put faith into action.

Special activities are part of the program for Grades 7-8 also. Students receive a list of these activities with dates and times, when classes begin. They then return a sign-up form with their choice of activities.

All Grade 7 and 8 students from the Summer and Fall classes attend a **Day of Reflection** as follows:

All Seventh Graders attend on **Sunday, February 26, 2012**
from **10:00 AM-12:00 Noon**



All Eighth Graders attend on **Sunday, March 25, 2012**
from **10:00 AM-12:00 Noon**

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!

H I G H S C H O O L

Lake Country Life Teen

What is Life Teen?

Life Teen is an international Catholic ministry that desires, through an Eucharistic-centered ministry model, to transform teens, parishes, and culture. Through relational ministry, parishes are equipped to guide their young people into a deeper relationship with Christ and his Church.

Life Teen and the High School Formation Program

High school Formation Program Orientation: September 18, 2011 at 7:00 p.m .

Welcome to the Lake Country Life Teen's High School Program, a ministry of St. Charles Catholic Parish. This year you can expect our program to be:

RELEVANT to you,
INTERESTING for you,
DYNAMIC with you there,
and **TRANSFORMING** for your life.

This year's program is going to be filled with **relevant** activities and skits, **interesting** talks and witnesses, **dynamic** small group discussions, and **transforming** prayer experiences. We will grow together as we learn about the Sacraments and living moral lives in Christ. We are going to be meeting in both large and small groups with a team of outstanding small group leaders to help guide us during this year.

But we need YOUR help! You will only get out of this year what you put into the year. If you give it your all, you will have an outstanding experience. Everything we will be doing: from the topics covered, to the retreats we'll attend, and the service we will do; is meant to help you know Christ and HIS Church in a deeper way.

Program Elements:

Sunday Evenings: Attendance at 6:00 p.m. Mass and Life Night (6:50-8:30 p.m.)
(Two Life Nights per month are required. The Social Night is optional but strongly recommended)

Retreat Experience: *Sign up for one of the following options:*

John Bosco Day -----October 1, 2011

Duc al Atum Retreat-----January 13-14, 2012

Wisconsin Catholic Youth Rally---March 24, 2012

Catholic Youth Expedition-----Summer, 2012

Service: Complete Three Acts of Service: in the community, for your parish, and for your family, and submit the required paperwork..

An essential element to this program is the **CORE Team**. The CORE Team is made up of parish volunteers and confirmed teens who have a desire to serve within the Life Teen program at St. Charles. CORE Team members will be involved in planning and running Life Nights. If interested, please contact Sam or Andrew in the Youth Ministry department for more information on how to become a CORE Team member.

Sacrament of Confirmation Preparation

Confirmation Preparation Program Orientation: Sunday, September 25, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

Confirmation Preparation is for grades 11+ that have had at least one year of high-school formation. Following the format of the Life Teen High School Program, Confirmation Prep will follow attendance at the 6:00 p.m. Sunday Mass followed by monthly large and small group meetings. Throughout the year, those seeking the Sacrament of Confirmation will learn how to deepen their baptismal call to be disciples of Christ through formation, prayer, community, service opportunities, and a retreat experience.

Program Elements:

Pre-requisite: For 2011-2012 Academic Year, One Year of High School Catechesis
For 2012+ Academic Years, Two Years of High School Catechesis

Sunday Evenings: Attendance at 6:00 p.m. Mass and Monthly Large and Small Group meetings

Interviews: At the **beginning of the year** with a youth minister to turn in paperwork and answer any questions about the program

Mid-year check in small group dinner with Father Ken and a youth minister

Exit Interview with select parish staff members

Retreat: **Must attend** a confirmation retreat:

#1: November 11-13, 2011; #2: February 17-19, 2012; #3: March 16-18, 2012

Service: Complete 5 service experiences in the areas of: Self, Family, Church, School, and Community

Liturgical Ministry: Partake in a liturgical ministry (Usher/Greeter, Lector, Server, Eucharistic Minister, etc.)

Other Ways to Get Involved:

C4: Christ Creating Confident Catholics

C4 is a high-school **youth group** that meets **every Wednesday night at 7:00 p.m.** in the Youth Room. Each week, teens gather to build community, hangout, and discuss some of today's "hot topics." This is not just another "religious ed." class—it's a place to meet some great friends, talk about relevant issues, and grow in your faith!

Keep an eye on the calendar for "C4: Guys Night" and "C4: Ladies Night" which occur on Tuesdays, once a month.

Senior Leadership Program

Are you a senior in high school and desire to gain experience in ministry? Do you want to help out as a CORE team member, small group facilitator, or be on a high school retreat team? If you answered "Yes" to any of these questions, consider signing up for this year's Senior Leadership Program. In this program, you will receive formation in prayer and ministry leadership as you assist catechists in the Children's Ministry Program (K-8), the Confirmation Preparation Program, or as a CORE team member for the High School Formation Program.

Contact Sam or Andrew in the Youth Ministry Office if you are interested or have any questions.

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For the most up-to-date information, make sure to visit the Youth Ministry website (www.lakecountrylifeteen.com) and follow Lake Country Life Teen on Facebook/Twitter (LakeCountry_LT).

