

**Immaculate Conception
Faith Formation
Family Handbook
2020-21**

Faith Formation 2020-21

Welcome back to another season of faith formation. Classes start on Sunday, September 13 for high school students. For grades K–8th grade, classes will start on September 16th where we invite all families to start out in church at 5:30 pm. If your child is in grades k-8 please attend this class with your child we will be explaining what is expected from everyone. We will be going with the Christ Our Life - New Evangelization Edition through Loyola press. I am excited to share the new material with you! As always families are welcome to join us at anytime.

Grade Level Prayers

Each grade level that your child attends has prayers that they need to learn to move on to the next level. We will take time at each class to say these prayers, but we also need your help at home to learn the prayers. After your child learns the prayers they also need to continue to use the prayer or else they forget them. Going to mass each week, taking time each morning and evening to pray are great ways to continue using the prays learned. After a student learns all the prayers for their grade level they will be rewarded with a certificate. We will begin testing the students in the first few weeks. We will let you know when your child will receive his/her certificate. We will need extra help testing, if you have time and can help out a few Wednesday evenings please let us know. Please consider helping with the prayer testing, we start in October and test through March. If you would like to see the prayers your student should be learning, please go to our website: www.imconeida.org hover your mouse over 'Education' then 'Faith Formation' and click on 'Prayers'. There you should be able to choose any grade to view the prayers they should be learning. You will be able to print any of these for your information.

Please read all information in the Family Handbook and go over with all members.

Faith Formation Personnel

Parish Priest: Father David Ruby

Deacon: Everett (Bobby) Doxtator

Coordinator: Sandy Lezotte ICPrayingAngels@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant:

Parish Secretary: Brenda Rybicki - Smith parishsecsjic@gmail.com

Faith Formation Office

Address: 145 St. Joseph Dr. Oneida WI 54155

Parish Office hours: Monday – Thursday 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

Phone Numbers:

Parish Office 869-2244 **Father David Ruby** ext. 102

Dens. Bobby Doxtator ext. 102

*On class night please call or email
ICPrayingAngels@gmail.com to report an absence or
emergency. Before 2:00 pm call the parish office at 869-
2244*

Dress Code (1996)

Clothing (t-shirts with unsuitable slogans, bare midriffs) and accessories (hat and caps) considered inappropriate in school are not allowed in faith formation classes.

Vandalism (1992)

Any student of the faith formation program caught in the act of any type of vandalism will be required to make restitution appropriate to the act.

In the case of a serious offense:

1. Parents will be notified.
2. Financial or in kind service will be determined by the priest/coordinator.
3. Parents, student, and FF staff will determine how and when the restitution will be carried out.

In the case of a minor offense:

1. A warning will be given and documentation made for each lesser offense.
2. Student and FF staff will determine how, when, and what kind of restitution is appropriate for the minor offense.

Drug/Alcohol (1992)

Any student registered in the faith formation program found in possession of, or under the influence of intoxicating or mood altering drugs, not prescribed by a physician, or in possession of drug related paraphernalia at any parish sponsored event shall be subject to the following: (See Diocesan Board Policy #5141)

Religious Education Policies

1. If the student is found using, selling, buying, or distributing drugs or alcohol outside or inside the parish premises, the police and parents will be contacted immediately. The student will be expelled from religious education for the remainder of the school year and be required to make up course work for that grade before reentry into the program. An interview with priest/stand/or coordinator will be required upon request for reentry.
2. If a student gives evidence of use of drugs or alcohol before a program or activity, or gives evidence of use of drugs or alcohol during a program activity, the parents or guardians will be contacted to pick up the student. The student must then make up the work/time at the FF Center under the direct supervision of FF personnel.

The FF program will be otherwise involved in two ways:

1. Prevention – By providing morality/values courses which deal with drug and alcohol education and related issues. FF personnel will communicate with the schools in the area to determine their programs and policies, also.
2. Referral – FF personnel will refer families to counseling services using appropriate providers of such services in the area if deemed necessary and appropriate.
If the student is involved in either circumstance (#1 or #2 above) in the year of the reception of a sacrament, it is recommended that the celebration of that sacrament be delayed for one year due to the seriousness of the situation.

Covenant 2008

All faith formation families are required to sign covenant before registering their child(ren)

Discipline 1991-92 (1998-99) Revised

All students are expected to conduct themselves in a Christian manner respecting teachers, staff, and fellow students. After one warning, parents can expect a warning slip to be mailed to the home signed by the catechist and coordinator. If this does not bring results, the parents will be asked to bring the student for a meeting with the coordinator before the student returns to class. If any student is absent for 50% or more of the provided classes, s/he may need to repeat that grade.

Parking (1992, 1994, 2015)

For safety reasons, parents are asked to come to the building to drop off and pick up children. Children grades K – 3rd will not be dismissed from the building without a parent/guardian signing them out of class.

Food, Drink, Or Gum (1992, 2006, 2016)

Special treats are welcome (birthday or special celebration). Students are allowed to bring a water bottle to each class.

Inclement weather (1993)

1. No faith formation classes will be held on days when area schools are closed due to inclement weather.
2. If schools close during the day due to the weather, no religious education will be held. If weather becomes inclement after noon, a decision will be made to cancel classes before 3:00 pm. Parents are encouraged to use their best judgment.

Sacrament Programs

Requirements for receiving a Sacrament

- Must attend all faith formation classes. No home schooling is allowed the year of a sacrament.
- Must attend all Parent Meetings.
- Must do the entire home based program. Papers must be turned in at the required time.
- Parents and child must attend retreats. Students only for confirmation retreat.
- Complete all community service.
- Sunday Mass is required.

First Reconciliation: Families learn of God's wonderful mercy and healing grace through the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The key here is the change of heart necessary to make peace with those who have been hurt by actions or lack of appropriate action. We prepare for First Reconciliation in grade 2.

First Eucharist: Eucharist means giving thanks; it is an active, participative event in the lives of children and their families. *The actions of belonging, gathering, listening, celebrating, giving and going forth are stressed in the context of the Mass throughout the preparation of First Eucharist.* At Immaculate Conception, we prepare for First Eucharist in grade 2.

Confirmation: Celebrates an individual's full membership into the Catholic Church and confirms and completes the gift of faith received in Baptism. Confirmation is not an ending, but rather a beginning into a deeper relationship with God, family and community. We begin the process in grade 11 and the students come back in early grade 12 to be confirmed. Weekly Mass is expected. Confirmation students will receive a weekly mass log.

FEE

A fee for parishioners of **\$50.00 for each student** in grades K- 11 with a **\$150.00 family limit. Non parishioners = \$100.00 per student with a family limit of \$300.00.** At registration you may pay in full or make payments until December 1. All other financial arrangements should be made with Father David Ruby or Sandy Lezotte. No one will be turned away because they can't afford the fee. Make checks payable to Immaculate Conception Parish.

Catechetical Ministry

We appreciate all those who have given their time and talent to this important ministry in the past. Each year we have some turnover. Maybe this year you would like to join our catechetical team as an individual or assistant teacher, helper, or table leader. We also need help in the office and hall monitors. Call the formation office today to volunteer. 869-2244.

There are many other ways to get involved if you don't have Wednesday nights free. We also need people to bake for special events. You can sign up to help with the any retreats we have. These are on Saturdays. You can help prepare papers before the retreat or help the day of the retreat. We always need extra help for the Children's Christmas Mass. Call the FF office if you would like to get involved. 869-2244.

This year we especially need help with prayer testing. We start in October and test throughout the season. You can sign up for one night or more.

Curriculum

The goal of the faith formation curriculum is to empower each person and family to grow in their understanding and practice of the Catholic faith with the tools which will nourish and nurture that faith throughout their life.

Grades K-8 will use Christ Our Life Series. The content fosters children's love of God and knowledge of our Catholic faith so they can proudly go out into the world and proclaim it. Christ Our Life is the only program that is aligned with both the Church's call for a New Evangelization and the NCEA ACRE Assessment.

Grade Kindergarten: *God Loves Us*. Children learn that God is our creator, God gives us many gifts. Jesus shows us God's love and he wants us to share God's love with others. We learn how and why we make the sign of the cross and begin to learn formal prayers.

Grade 1: *God is Good*. Children learn that they are part of God's family. Since many children are first introduced to religious education at this point, we want them to feel comfortable with their teacher and the other helpers. We want them to get to know and like "church" at this age. They will continue to learn formal prayers.

Grade 2: *Blessed*: A series by Dynamic Catholic. It focuses solely on First Communion and First Reconciliation. This year special emphasis is placed on learning about Jesus, the Mass and preparation for First Eucharist and First Reconciliation. ***Attendance at Mass is important for the second grader.***

Grade 3: *We Believe*. The third grader learns the importance of church: the creed, the sacraments, and Christian living.

Grade 4: *God Guides Us*. Forming a good conscience is the goal for this year as the 10 commandments and the law of love is studied.

Grade 5: *We Worship*. This year we concentrate on the symbols of our lives, God's word, the church and prayer/sacraments. The Liturgy of the Mass.

Grade 6: *God Calls a People*. Grade 6 will study the Old Testament and its meaning for Catholics. It guides us to see in Jesus the fulfillment of all the Father has promised, as well as the perfect response to his love. We respond to God's call to enter into a loving relationship with God and with the Church, which manifests itself in love and care for all people.

Grade 7 and 8: *Jesus the Way, the Truth, and the Life*. Through his words and actions, Jesus shows us what God is like. Jesus reveals the Father to us. By his words and actions, he shows us the truth about God. Throughout his life, Jesus promised to those who believe and follow him a share in his divine and eternal life.

Grade 9 & 10: *Dynamic Catholic: Who Are You? What are you here for? What Matters Most? What Matters Least?*

Grade 11: *Youth Alpha*: A way to inspire and equip youth to share their faith. *Chosen*: This is your catholic faith.

Confirmation: *Confirmed in Spirit*: invites the confirmation students to experience God through ritual, reflect on the eight aspects of the Confirmation rite, and become full and active disciples of Jesus Christ. The candidates will take on the responsibility for continuing their own religious journey ***by regularly participating in Sunday Mass, by continuing their spiritual formation within the Church community, by serving others' needs, and by spreading and defending the faith in word and deed.*** The confirmation process will begin in the 11th grade and then the students will be confirmed early in the 12th grade.

Note: Special Education

Every person deserves quality religious education and preparation for the sacraments. If you or someone in your family is in need of special consideration, we are willing to provide for your needs.