

Notice of Class Cancellation

(approved by Faith Formation Commission; effective September 1, 2014)

Attendance Policy: Attendance is required at all Faith Formation classes. We want to make sure ALL students are accounted for, so it is important to please call your Site Supervisor when your child/children will be absent.

Weather: If schools are canceled or let out early due to weather, FF classes will be canceled as well. Should bad weather occur during the intermediate time, notification will be sent using GroupMe. Use your parental discretion as well in determining whether you want to drive or have your child drive in questionable weather.

Sports and other Extracurricular Activities: Because our Prince of Peace Cluster involves multiple school districts, there will be no cancellation of FF classes because of sports and other extracurricular activities. Per the attendance policy above, call your Site Supervisor if you know your child will be absent.

Disciplinary Procedure Policy

A disturbance needing a student disciplinary procedure includes, and not limited to, those actions of disruptive behavior, disrespect, disobedience, misuse of property, and anything else that causes total disruption of class.

First Disturbance: Meeting with catechist, student, site supervisor, and parents.

Second Disturbance: Meeting with catechist, student, site supervisor, parents, and CRE. At this time, parents are required to attend the classes each week.

Third Disturbance: Meeting with catechist, student, site supervisor, parents, CRE, and pastor.

If a resolution cannot be found after meeting with the pastor, the student is expelled for the remainder of the Faith Formation school year. If the student requests re-admittance to the program, the student and parents need to meet with the Faith Formation Commission. The Faith Formation Commission supports this policy.

Prince of Peace Cluster



Faith Formation 2025-2026

CRE: Sarah Kopriva

e-mail: s.kopriva@dbqarch.org phone: (319) 651-6250

Hours of Availability: Tuesdays, 9AM-3PM, St. Paul FF office,
Wednesdays, 6:30-7:45PM rotating sites

Site Coordinator:

St. Paul – Amy Harmsen

e-mail: amarieharmsen@gmail.com phone: (515) 291-9908

Sacred Heart – Sheri Steffen

e-mail: jssteffen@mchsi.com phone: (319) 290-2284

Tuition: Payable to the faith formation site your student will be attending.
(Updated and approved by Faith Formation Commission on August 13, 2024)

1st child - \$75, all additional children \$50/ea, Family max = \$200

Out of Cluster: \$110/ child

Class Session Times & Curriculum

SH/SP - 6:30-7:45 pm, Word Of Life - Augustine Institute

Communication: GroupMe App Invitation will be sent by the CRE upon your child being registered. This tool will be used for weekly reminders and special updates. Please download and engage with this application. Other important information regarding the FF Program will be shared via email, the bulletin, and website depending on urgency and need for response.

Registration:

Registration forms may be completed online or hard copy per request.
Please complete forms (registration, liability, and media release) and send payment to St. Paul Catholic Church 1102 Walnut St. Traer, IA 50675 by August 31st.

Site Supervisors

SH Sheri Steffen 319-290-2284

SP Amy Harmsen 515-291-9908

Catechists **SH:** 1 - Jenna Harrison

2- Lisa Alderman

3- Brooke Reiter

4- Audra Keegan

5- Ben Rosauer

6- Audra Keegan

7/8-

HS-Youth Group (Andrea Behrends)

SM: 9/10- Confirmation (Andrea Behrends)

SP: 1 – Ava Monat

2- Anna Strohbehn

3 – Sara Robinson

4 –

5 –

6 – Lacey Hennings

7/8 – Amy Harmsen

HS-Youth Group (Sarah Kopriva, Shannon Svoboda)

Contact Us

Office: (319) 478-2222, e-mail dbq199ff@dbqarch.org

Priest: (319) 478-2222, e-mail dbq199@dbqarch.org

Website: www.princeofpeacecluster.com

Facebook Names: SH – Sacred Heart Faith Formation

SM – St Mary's Faith Formation

SP – St Paul's Faith Formation

Confirmation

Our Cluster Confirmation program has moved from an annual to a bi-annual offering in an effort to combine classes. Confirmation Class will begin September 10th for 9th and 10th grade students. They will follow "The Dynamic Catholic" **Be Bold! Be Catholic!** Program.

The Sacrament of Confirmation is anticipated to be given in October of 2026 for the incoming Confirmandi. **Leader:** Andrea Behrens 319-239-6947

Dwell Youth Group

DWELL Youth Group will be at both FF Sites again this year! We encourage all our high schoolers from each parish to participate in the activities, service projects, trips and faith discussion opportunities focused on what our HS kids want to learn about most. We hope to make this a place for you to gather and grow in your faith! The group will meet every other week at St. Paul (Shannon Svoboda/Sarah Kopriva) and Sacred Heart (Andrea Behrends) from 6:30-7:45 PM on Wednesdays. St. Patricks in Tama will also be hosting a DWELL program on our off weeks that our 11th & 12th Grade students are welcome to attend while 9th & 10th are at Confirmation.

Faith Formation Commission

Mission: Our team purpose is to use our knowledge of Catholicism and passion for the Prince of Peace Cluster children to promote a faith formation program that helps establish, stimulate, and enhance the student's Catholic faith and spiritual life to continue their faith journey.

Members are elected for a three-year term and can serve two successive terms. Meetings are held at 5:30 pm, bi-monthly on the fourth Wednesday of the month at St. Mary of Mt. Carmel.

Members: **SH:** Amber Havran, Jalana Sadler

SM: Kristi Heffelmeier, Kaylee McGarvey

SP: Eileen Dudys

Pastor: Fr. Anthony Boahen Nketiah

Attendance: Attendance is required and tracked at all Faith Formation classes. It is our goal for students to receive at least 30 hours of Faith Formation throughout the Faith Formation Year. This would be accomplished by having 24 - 1.25 hr classes. We recognize that life can throw unexpected things at us, and we want to give ample opportunities for students to authentically grow in their Catholic Faith. Our program is offering 28 formation opportunities throughout the year in hopes that all of our students can meet or exceed the 30 hour goal. To help us plan for absences appropriately, please call your **Site Supervisor or Catechist** to let them know your child will be absent.

Drop Off- Pick Up: This is an updated policy for the 24-25 School year now included for the safety and well-being of all of our students. Due to the timing of our classes and the busy nature of our parking lot, we are asking all parents of students 1st-3rd Grade to come to the door to pick up their child vs. having them find your vehicle in the parking lot. This is especially important when our classes end and it is dark outside.

Church/Rectory Entrance for Classes: For the safety of our children, we will only have one door unlocked for entrance and exiting of our class buildings on Faith Formation night. At St. Pauls, this will be the back door on the west side of the church. At Sacred Heart, this will be the front door on the north side of the Rectory for 1st-6th Grade Classrooms, and the main entrance of the Church for 7/8th and DWELL Classrooms. This includes First Wednesday Family nights.

Communication: Faith Formation Program Schedule will be able to be found on the Prince of Peace Website, and other communication will be done through bulletin updates and the GroupMe App depending on the urgency of the message. GroupMe will be used to share weekly reminders to parents, last minute communications, or other necessary notes. All online registrants should have been invited to participate in the "Prince of Peace Faith Formation" Group on GroupMe. If you did not receive an invite and would like to receive updates through this communication tool, please contact the CRE.

We will be using Facebook for sharing recaps of events and special activities, but will be moving away from this as a reminder/notification tool. Email will also be used for class cancellation, weather updates, or other forward planning/communication.

To follow special Facebook posts, search "Sacred Heart Faith Formation" or "St. Paul Faith Formation" and request to be added to the group. An admin will approve your request and you will be granted access to the page.

First Wednesday Family Nights: Both the St. Paul and Sacred Heart Parishes will be hosting monthly opportunities for families to gather with their children to learn more about our faith together. On the first Wednesday of each month, families are invited to join their student in the parish Chapel at 7:15 PM for a 30 minute lesson and activity that helps build understanding of various faith related topics. Don't worry parents, we are not there to quiz you! :) Join us to journey in learning together! This year, we are going to focus on living our liturgical year, understanding Feast Days and the beauty of each season we celebrate throughout the Church Year. We will give you ideas on how to celebrate in your homes and live our Catholic Faith beyond Sunday. We are excited to see you there!

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Faith Formation Youth Masses: Youth Masses are an important part of our children's development of their understanding of the Mass and the various ways we can serve Jesus through this important weekly worship. Classes have been assigned to various parts of the Mass on FF Youth Mass dates, and Families have been assigned to Meals (at St. Paul) this year to aid in planning. If your family has been assigned to a weekend that will not work for your family's needs, please reach out to those assigned to other weekends to arrange a swap. Communicate all changes to the CRE as soon as possible.

Altar Server Practice: St. Paul will be offering an altar server practice from 6:00-6:30 on the first Wednesday of every month for all of the servers that are scheduled that month. Sacred Heart will take the children scheduled that weekend for a quick practice during class time each week.