



Immaculate Conception Church

Religious Education
555 8th Street SW
Pine City, MN 55063
320-629-3911 ext 103

September 1, 2021

Dear Parents,

The 2021/2022 Religious Education Program for 1st through 11th grade students will be starting on Wednesday, October 13th. We look forward to helping young people know and love our Lord, His Church, and each other. Please register your children and/or teens by **September 27th or sooner**.

We are still being affected by the pandemic as we begin our program year. Our safety protocols are based on guidance from Minnesota DHS and the Diocese of Duluth. We also look to the safety protocols at Pine City Public Schools to help shape our policies and procedures. We are planning to return to our old schedule this year.

Elementary Sessions Wednesdays 3:00—4:30

- Start directly after school (around 3:00):
 - Students will report to the basement for check-in and a snack,
 - Masks recommended at parents' discretion,
 - Appropriate distancing will be practiced at all times,
 - Large group free-play outside,
 - Large group prayer, and
 - Class room time until 4:30.
- As cases in our area increase or decrease, proper precautions may require a change to this schedule. We will provide as much advance notice as possible.
- We would revert to remote Religious Education (family driven) in case the elementary school goes to all remote learning.

Jr. & Sr. High School Sessions Wednesdays 7:00—8:30

- Start at 7:00 with safety protocols in place:
 - Start in the Church basement for a snack and announcements,
 - Masks are recommended,
 - Appropriate distancing will be practiced at all times,
 - Move to large group sessions,
 - Move to small group sessions, and
 - Closing prayers in the church before release.
- We would move to remote Religious Education (on-line and family driven) in case school goes to all remote learning.

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So that we can prepare well, please enroll your children and teens by **September 27rd or sooner**. Enclosed is the registration material for the 2021/2022 Religious Education Program year:

- Registration Form (complete front & back)
- Additional Youth Form
- Photography Release Statement
- Safe Environment Opt-Out form (no need to return unless you opt-out)
- List of dates for Wednesday sessions (subject to change)

To return these forms, along with payment, you can drop into the box in St Anthony Commons, at the Parish Office or Religious Ed Office, or send them via U.S. Mail to the address above.

The registration fee will again be \$30 per child, with a family cap of \$90. This covers only a portion of the costs of the program. If you are unable to cover the cost of the fee, please do not let that keep you from enrolling your family. Instead, please give me a call to have the fee waived confidentially.

All 12th grade students are welcome to join us on Wednesday evenings, free of charge. Please include them on a registration form if they plan to attend. Additionally, students who are in 12th grade and have been confirmed may choose to serve as a leader for Elementary or Junior High students. If your 12th grader is interested in serving as a leader, please have them give me a call.

We are looking for additional help at the elementary and high school levels. Please prayerfully consider joining us. You may be able to help as a: catechist (elementary grades), small group leader (Jr. & Sr. High School), substitute or temporary catechist or small group leader, one time guest speaker, or behind the scenes helper. Volunteering with young people in these programs is rewarding and fun. Plus, it is a great way for you to learn more about our faith, spend extra time with your child, and get to know other members of our parish. If you can serve in any of these ways or have questions about how you might be able to help, please contact me at your earliest convenience.

Thank you in advance for registering your family by **Monday, September 27th**. If you would like to volunteer or have any questions or concerns about these programs, I can be reached by phone, 320-629-3911 ext. 103, or email at lynette.forbes.cardey@duluthcatholic.org.

Peace to your home,



D. Lynette Forbes-Cardey
Religious Education/Youth Ministry
Immaculate Conception Church, Pine City