

Saint Victor Religious Education Office
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Dear CCD Families:

Hello! My name is Mary Ann Miller and I am excited to be serving as St. Victor's Faith Formation Director this year. I have worked with children and in the field of education for over 40 years. I taught CCD and worked with our Youth Group here at St. Victor's for 21 years after teaching Special Needs CCD at St. Bonaventure for 8 years. My first teaching position was at Immaculate Conception in Bloomfield (now St. Maria Goretti) where I taught 6th, 7th and 8th grade. I then stayed at home with my kids for 10 years during which time I was a Girl Scout leader and a Cub Scout leader in the West Deer area. After 10 years at home, I subbed for five years in the Deer Lakes District and then returned to the Catholic School system. I taught first and third grades and then served as principal at Transfiguration School and later as principal at Assumption School in Bellevue. I "retired" last June when Assumption School merged with another Catholic School. My husband, Martin, and I have been members of St. Victor's since 1984. Our 3 children went through the St. Victor CCD program and attended Deer Lakes Schools. We are now blessed with 3 grandchildren.

This year, our wonderful teachers and staff and I will strive to continue the excellent work that has always marked our CCD program.

6TH GRADE CHANGE!

We will not be using the Activity Building for class this year. Therefore, 6th grade class time will be moved to Monday evenings from 7:00 – 8:30 pm. If this poses a problem, Transfiguration has Sunday morning classes for 6th grade from 10:15 – 11:45 am. I apologize for any inconvenience this change may cause.

IMPORTANT DATES:

Back to School Blessing for students will take place at all Masses on August 18th

Catechetical Sunday is September 15th. The teachers will receive a blessing at the 11:00 Mass. An Open House for all CCD families and any interested parishioner will be held after the Mass. After seeing the classrooms and meeting the teachers (or saying hello to last year's teacher) join us for coffee and doughnuts in the Activity Building. I am looking forward to meeting our CCD families.

Our first class session for *elementary students (K-5)* will be Sunday, September 22nd. Please meet in church at 9:15.

Our first class session for *middle school students (6-8)* will be on Monday, September 23rd. Please have the students report directly to the classrooms that evening. You will receive an email soon with your classroom assignment.

THEMES:

The diocesan theme this year is “Stay with Us”. Our parish theme is “In a World Where You Can Be Anything, Be Kind!”



DISMISSAL POLICY:

The Monday night classes will have a new dismissal policy this year. The parents who are picking up their children should pull into our lot around the left side of the rectory and remain in their cars while lining up along the sidewalk in front of the covered porch. The cars can form a line running back along the tree line of parking lot, circling around the lot toward the shed and back down the lot past the back of the Activity building and ending at the porch area. As your children get in your car, you are asked to exit only along the front of the Activity Building.

On Sunday mornings, Kindergarten parents should come in the building and wait for their children in the hallway leading to the CCD office. First Grade parents should come into the building and wait along the hallway in front of the big classroom to meet their children. Kindergarten and first grade classes will be dismissed at 10:40. Our CCD staff is still working on a way to make our Sunday morning dismissal safer for the other grade levels. More information will be forthcoming.

YOUTH GROUP

Youth Group is for our high school students. Our faith must be constantly nurtured and cared for if it is to grow. Our high school program will involve faith filled activities (and food!) We will meet the first Sunday of month from October through March from 5-7pm in the Activity Building. Our first gathering will be on Sunday, October 6th.

NOTIFICATIONS:

All correspondence will be by email this year. Information concerning sacramental meetings as well as special events and monthly calendars and possible weather-related cancellations will be sent out on a regular basis. Cancellation of class sessions will still appear on KDKA, WPXI and WTAE websites. Please keep your phone and email information up to date.

Attached to this email is our yearly schedule of classes and the August, September calendars. All dates are subject to change.

BOOK AND SUPPLY FEES:

Cost for one child is \$35, second child is \$60 and for three or more is \$75.

It takes everyone working together to create a faith filled, joyful CCD program. We are truly blessed at St. Victor Parish to have a great volunteer staff. Our catechist and aides have a strong desire to serve God through His children. We include you in this endeavor; our

families as a most important ingredient of our success. Of course, God is our guide, our inspiration, and the reason for our being.

May the favor of the Lord our God be ours. Prosper the work of our hands!
(Psalm 90:17)

Yours in Christ,

Mary Ann Miller

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