

ST. ANTHONY AND
ST. MARY PARISH

FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM HANDBOOK

2021-2022

ST. ANTHONY AND ST. MARY FAITH FORMATION HANDBOOK

Thomas said to him, “Master, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?” Jesus said to him,

“I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

If you know me, then you will also know my Father. John 14:5-7

St. Mary Parish Mission Statement

Love God above all else. Love neighbor as self. Go, make disciples!

St. Mary Parish Vision Statement

Empowered by the Holy Spirit to carry out our mission, our vision is to “LIVE JESUS!”

Share our Catholic tradition by promoting faith development and ongoing Christian education
Foster a community of prayer, warmth, and hospitality.

Commit to stewardship as a way of life, offering our gifts of time, talent, and treasure in the service of God and others.

Become a dynamic evangelizing parish.

Prayerfully participate in the sacramental life of the Church.

Strengthen family life.

St. Anthony Parish Mission Statement

St. Anthony Parish community proclaims the Gospel of Jesus Christ, forming disciples of all members, sending them out to make new disciples called to encounter Jesus through worship, prayer, sacraments, and fellowship.

St. Anthony & St. Mary Faith Formation Program Goals

(in conjunction with the USCCB goals)

1. To reclaim our inheritance of God’s design as beloved, irreplaceable, unrepeatable children of God.
2. To embolden young people to live as disciples of Jesus Christ in our world today.
3. To mentor young people towards responsible participation in the life, mission, and work of St. Anthony and St. Mary Parish and in the larger Church community.
4. To nurture the personal and spiritual growth of each young person.

We are excited to be helping your child/ren learn more about their Catholic faith. This program will provide knowledge and guidance with their sacramental preparation and spiritual growth.

This handbook will provide your family with pertinent information for the St. Anthony and St. Mary Faith Formation Program. As a family, please take time to read it so you will know and understand the guidelines and policies.

THE IMPORTANT ROLE OF THE FAMILY GROWING TOGETHER AS A FAMILY IN GOD'S LOVE

Parents and family are the primary religious influence on their children. A child's attitude toward Mass, the sacraments, prayer, service to others and a Catholic Christian lifestyle grows out of a parent's example and attitude. The following are ways to nurture your child's faith formation,

- Actively participate with your child/ren in weekly worship at Mass and practice your faith at home.
- Participate with your child/ren in parish events, the holiday Masses and Ash Wednesday Mass and the Advent and Lent reconciliation services.
- Show interest. Encourage your child/ren to do more than attend classes. Encourage them to actively participate in youth group events, retreats and/or other opportunities offered.
- Help them to understand and learn prayers. Make prayer important in your house. Thank God for your blessings and for your struggles. Eat meals regularly with your family; this is a great time to catch up on each other's lives.
- Show family members that you love them. Cultivate an attitude of forgiveness.

Please feel free to give us a call or stop by if you need some help.
May God bless you and your family. Please know that you are always in our prayers.

FAITH FORMATION POLICIES

REGISTRATION AND TUITION

St. Anthony and St. Mary Faith Formation does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color or national or ethnic origin in administration of its policies, supplementary programs or any other program-based function.

No child shall be denied a Catholic education based solely on the inability to pay tuition and sacrament fees. Payment plans are available. Please contact the Parish office for more information at 262-251-0220.

Students **MUST** be registered in the Faith Formation program prior to the start of the fall semester. Tuition (full or partial) is due **PRIOR** to the first class in fall unless other arrangements have been made. **STUDENTS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO ATTEND CLASSES UNTIL THEY ARE REGISTERED.**

Program Fees for the 2021-2022 St. Anthony and St. Mary Faith Formation Program:

Program Fees

Faith Formation Program Registration Fee - \$190.00

Non-Parishioners Fee - \$200.00

Additional Retreat Fees

First Reconciliation/First Communion Retreat Fee - \$65.00 Non-Parishioners - \$75.00

Confirmation Retreat Fee - \$130.00 Non-Parishioners - \$140.00

*Prices fluctuate depending on your status as are a parishioner, or non-parishioner.

*All Catechists receive a 75% discount

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION

All families are required to participate in the faith formation family evenings, consisting of one hour of family formation and one hour of separate grade level/parent formation. The preparation and celebration of the Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation must be met by regular participation in the parish program and attendance at Mass. Regular attendance enhances learning and quality group participation as well as rewarding the catechist's time and preparation.

Student's FRIENDS/VISITORS are NOT permitted to attend classroom sessions without prior approval from the Associate Director of Discipleship and Evangelization.

ABSENTEEISM AND PUNCTUALITY

Students/families are required to attend all family evenings/classes as set forth in the faith formation calendar. Catechists will take attendance at the beginning of every student class.

Students are expected to participate in the faith formation program throughout their primary and secondary educational years.

IF YOUR CHILD/REN CANNOT ATTEND CLASS FOR ANY REASON, PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE. (262-251-0220) OR EMAIL KARISSA:

tousignantk@stam.church

CLASS ATTENDANCE POLICY FOR PARISH SPORTS ELIGIBILITY GRADES 5-8

This policy defines the class attendance requirements for both students and parents and will be used to determine a student's eligibility to participate in parish organized sports programs.

1. In order for a St. Anthony or St. Mary student to participate on St. Mary athletic teams his/her family must be St. Mary, St. Anthony, St. James or Good Shepard registered parish members.
2. A student must be registered in the parish Faith Formation program in order to play sports.
3. A student will be allowed no more than four unexcused absences, two per season, to maintain eligibility to participate in sports, i.e., the fifth unexcused absence means the student can no longer play in an existing program and will not be allowed to join future programs for the rest of that current school year.
4. A written notice will be used to communicate unexcused absences to athletes as they occur.
5. An excused absence is defined as follows:
 - A. A parent has called the parish office (262-251-0220) within 1 week of the scheduled class and left a message with the child's name, class, date of absence and reason for absence.
 - B. Acceptable reasons for absence are illness or a conflict with another pre-planned activity, such as an academic event or family outing. Conflict because of a student's involvement with another sport program (not associated with the parish) is not acceptable.
 - C. Acceptability of other reasons given for an absence will be determined by the Associate Director of Discipleship and Evangelization.
6. A student will be charged with an unexcused absence if the parent has failed to call the parish office within 1 week of the scheduled class, has not contacted the Associate Director of Discipleship and Evangelization prior to the class to advise of the absence, or the reason for the absence does not meet the criteria as defined in 5b or 5c.
7. An unexcused absence can be erased if the parent contacts the Associate Director of Discipleship and Evangelization within 3 days of the missed class and arranges to pick up and complete the missed work at home prior to the date of the next class.
8. The Associate Director of Discipleship and Evangelization will track attendance for those faith formation students participating in sports, per the names provided by the FF Liaison on the St. Mary Athletic Board. The Director will notify the Liaison as unexcused absences occur.
9. Any exceptions to this policy must be discussed and agreed upon with the Associate Director of Discipleship and Evangelization and the Athletic Board.

MEETING PLACE OF FAITH FORMATION SESSIONS

All faith formation events will take place at St. Mary Parish School building unless otherwise noted on the calendar.

FAMILY EVENINGS (FAMILIES / GRADES 1-11)

First and Third Tuesday of the month
5:45pm - 7:45pm

CONFIRMATION (GRADE 11)

Weekly on Tuesday evenings unless otherwise noted on the calendar
6:45pm - 8:00pm

Faith Formation classes, unless otherwise notified, will meet at the St. Mary Parish School building. Registered families will receive a schedule of session dates. These dates can also be found on the St. Anthony & St. Mary Parish Website.

For Family Evenings we will begin in the Church at St. Mary Parish, please enter through the east side doors. For weeks that only the Confirmation students meet, please have them enter the school building through the activity center doors and head to their classrooms.

FAITH FORMATION CLASS CANCELLATION

It is the policy of St. Anthony and St. Mary Faith Formation program to cancel classes due to dangerous weather conditions. All cancellations will be solely at the discretion of the parish staff pending circumstances.

In case of class cancellation due to inclement weather, St. Anthony and St. Mary Faith Formation staff will notify the families of cancellations at least two hours before class would normally take place. Emails will be sent to all families from the Associate Director of Discipleship and Evangelization.

In addition to emailing the families, the Associate Director of Discipleship and Evangelization will update all social media.

PLEASE DO NOT DROP OFF YOUR CHILDREN ON EVENINGS WHEN CLASS IS CANCELLED! The doors of St. Anthony and St. Mary Parish School and Church will be locked. There will be a sign on the doors notifying that classes have been cancelled.

Use your own discretion as well. If you feel road conditions are too bad for you to drive from your location, please notify the parish office at 262-251-0220 that your child/ren will not be attending class.

EXPECTATIONS

1. Students are to be in the classroom seated and ready to participate when class begins.
2. Students are to respect all catechists, each other, and Church/School property.
3. Students are to follow the classroom catechist's directions.
4. Students are not allowed to bring in gum, candy, or soda into the building without the permission from the catechist.
5. Students are not allowed to use cell phones, smart phones, iPods, iPads, or any other electronic equipment in class, unless directed by the Catechist.

+ELECTRONIC DEVICES+

The use of electronic devices, such as cell phones (calls, texting, taking photos, etc.), iPods, PDAs, etc., are not allowed during class time. After the first offense, the child will be warned. After the second offense, the device will be confiscated until the end of class. After the third offense, the device will be taken away and not be returned until the student's parent calls the Associate Director of Discipleship and Evangelization and informs them that their child has been appropriately instructed not to use the device during class. Further offenses may result in a student's expulsion from the program.

DRESS CODE

There is no set dress code for attending Faith Formation classes, but it's expected that students follow these general guidelines:

- Clothes are to be clean and comfortable, and appropriate for the temperature and time of year.
- No T-shirts with words, slogans, or pictures that a reasonable person would find offensive.
- Shirts and shoes are required at all times!

DISCIPLINE

We believe all students are entitled to religious education. All students will be expected to conduct themselves in a CATHOLIC CHRISTIAN manner, respecting all catechists and staff as well as fellow students. If your student is disruptive in the classroom and interferes with the rights of the other students, the following four-step process will be implemented.

1st step:

Student will receive a verbal warning from the catechist and told to stop the behavior.

2nd step:

If the behavior continues, the catechist will contact the Associate Director of Discipleship and Evangelization of the situation which occurred. The Associate Director will relate to the child what the expectations are for class and what they need to do to follow them.

3rd step:

If incorrect behavior continues, the Associate Director of Discipleship and Evangelization will notify the parents that the student has been excused from class and parents need to come and pick him/her up. Parents and students will then meet with Associate Director of Discipleship and Evangelization to discuss the behavior and what measures will be taken for the behavior to cease.

4th step:

If the meeting still does not resolve the behavior, a parent must sit in on the class, or the student will be excused from the class and an alternative option for continuing faith formation will be explored.

BULLYING & HARASSMENT

It is imperative to maintain an educational environment that encourages optimum human growth and development. Respect for the dignity of each person is essential to Catholic tradition. It is vital that each school and religious education program maintain an environment free of any form of harassment, bullying, or intimidation.

Bullying and harassment may be defined as a single incident or a pattern of behavior wherein the purpose or effect is to create a hostile, offensive, or intimidating environment.

Bullying and harassment behaviors are prohibited in all school and parish buildings, property, and educational environments, including any property or vehicle owned, leased, or used by the parish/school. Educational environments include, but are not limited to, every activity under school and parish supervision. Bullying and harassment encompass a broad range of physical or verbal behavior which can include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Physical assaults, hitting or punching, kicking, theft, threatening behavior.
- Verbal threats or intimidating language, teasing or name-calling, racist remarks.
- Indirect threats, spreading cruel rumors, intimidation through gestures, and social exclusion.
- Cyber bullying or the sending of insulting messages or pictures by mobile phone or by use of the internet.

All staff members and parish/school officials who observe or become aware of bullying are required to report these acts to the administration. Any other person, including a student who is either a victim of the bullying or aware of the bullying or any other concerned individual is encouraged to report the conduct to the staff or administration.

Reports of bullying may be made verbally or in writing and may be made confidentially. All such reports, whether verbal or in writing, will be taken seriously. A clear account of the incident is to be documented. A written record of the report will be made by the recipient of the report.

There shall be no retaliation against individuals making such reports. Individuals engaging in retaliatory behavior will be subject to disciplinary action.

If it is determined that students participated in bullying behavior or retaliated against anyone due to the reporting of bullying behavior, the administration shall take disciplinary action, up to and including suspension, expulsion, and/or referral to law enforcement officials for possible legal action as appropriate.

Reporting Procedure

Any person who has been subjected to harassment should contact any adult on the school or parish staff. The person who has been notified of the incident must immediately report this information to the pastor, Associate Director of Discipleship and Evangelization or appropriate supervisor. An investigation shall be conducted immediately. If the allegation is confirmed, appropriate action will be taken. Appropriate action could include, but is not limited to:

- Written documentation of the incident
- Disciplinary sanction(s)
- Peer mediation
- Professional counseling
- Referral to outside agencies
- Probation/Suspension/Expulsion

To the extent a complaint of harassment involves sexual misconduct or the apparent infliction of physical or emotional damage, the appropriate civil authorities will be notified pursuant to Wis. Stat. 48.981. According to archdiocesan protocol, any case involving sexual misconduct also must be reported to the Coordinator of Safeguarding All of God's Family.

PROPERTY DAMAGE

Parents of students will be held responsible for the replacement cost of any materials or property which are lost or damaged through their children's negligence.

VANDALISM

Parents of students shall be responsible for the vandalism done by their children.

Vandalism comprises those acts which result in damage to parish or school property, including but not limited to burglary, theft, malicious mischief, property damage, breaking and entering, and arson.

Vandalism against parish or school property caused by students must be dealt with appropriately by the school/parish administrator.

The school/parish administrator is directed to:

- Identify the student(s) involved
- Call together persons, including the parents, needed to study the causes

- Decide upon disciplinary action and/or assessment of costs against the parents of students under 18 or against the student, if 18 or over
- Take any constructive actions needed to prevent future vandalism

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Emergency contact information must be provided to the Parish office for every registered student. There is a place on the registration form for this information.

In case of fire or tornado, each class will follow the emergency procedures listed in the classroom.

The St. Anthony & St. Mary Faith Formation Staff reserve the right to perform a fire or tornado drill at any point during the school year.

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VISITORS TO FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM

In order to ensure the safety and well-being of students and volunteers, parish administrators shall regulate all visitors to their buildings and grounds. All visitors to the religious education program must report to the Associate Director of Discipleship and Evangelization when entering and must receive authorization before visiting classrooms and other parts of the building. This requirement does not apply when visitors are attending a family event or other public program in areas typically used for large group assembly, such as gymnasiums and auditoriums, or when parents are attending activities clearly for the purpose of parent involvement, such as parent meetings.

The parish administrator or designee has the discretion to request that a visitor leave the premises if he/she believes that the visitor’s presence presents a danger to students, staff, or property or if that person’s presence is disruptive to the operation of the parish program. Law enforcement shall be called if persons refuse to comply.

Students may not bring guests to class unless the student’s parent/legal guardian and authorized parish representative have granted permission to do so.

A student is never released from parish/school programs to anyone who is not clearly identified as his/her parent or an adult authorized in writing by the parent for this purpose.

PHOTO & VIDEO RELEASE

Photos or videos of students may be used on parish/school websites, social media, and print materials under the following guidelines:

- Identified photographs of students may be published with written and dated permission forms from parents. **(See Form)**
- No publication of student’s addresses, phone numbers or other personal information is permitted.
- Group photos are permitted without permission as long as the caption identifies the activity or class, not the individual students in the photo
- Care needs to be taken to ensure that videos do not release individual, identifiable information about minors without parent consent

PERSONAL LEARNING – HEALTH CONCERNS

Information about learning, health or other problems should be communicated in person to the Associate Director of Discipleship and Evangelization or written on the student’s family registration form. This will allow the student, St. Anthony and St. Mary staff and the catechist to develop a healthier relationship and provide protection against harmful reactions in class. We want to minister to each child, as his/her individual needs dictate.

MEDICATION

The St. Anthony and St. Mary staff /volunteers does not supervise the taking of medication nor do we administer it except in extraordinary circumstances. In order for us to administer any prescription drug we must have a written doctor’s order with the student’s name, dosage, date and instructions. This must also be accompanied by a parent/legal guardian’s written permission.

COMMUNICATIONS

Parent letters and notices are sent home in one or more of the following ways: with students, through the mail, weekly parish bulletin, the parish web site and/or email. Please check these sources each week to keep informed. Conferences with the Associate Director of Discipleship and Evangelization can be scheduled at any time. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the St. Mary Parish Office at 262-251-0220.

FIELD TRIPS/RETREATS – OUTSIDE PARISH GROUNDS ACTIVITIES

Parents must submit the permission slip provided by the St. Anthony & St. Mary Parish Office. Parents or the legal guardian must sign the form. NO TELEPHONE CALLS OR HANDWRITTEN SLIPS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM

The Archdiocese of Milwaukee requires faith formation programs to devote the equivalent of 1 class to the topic of Safe Environment. The purpose is to help the children realize that each person deserves to be loved and cared for and can help themselves stay safe, to recognize experiences of good and bad human relationships and friendships and to differentiate between safe, unsafe, and unwanted touches.

VOLUNTEERS

In order to comply with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Charter for the Protection of Children and Youth as applied in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, the following requirements must be met for all volunteers who have regular contact with children or youth prior to commencement of volunteer service:

- Be cleared through a state and national criminal background check
- Attend a Safe Environment "Protecting God's Children" awareness session
- Read and sign the Code of Ethical Standards and the Mandatory Reporting Responsibilities
- Be approved by a member of the professional staff

A criminal background check must be repeated every five (5) years. A volunteer may be dismissed for violations of policies and procedures of the parish/school or for actions that harm the good name and reputation of the parish and/or school.

MANDATORY REPOSTING OF CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT

All children have the right to live, learn, and play in an environment free from abuse and neglect. As individuals who care about children, it is the duty of any adult, employee or volunteer, in a school and/or parish to report abuse, neglect, or maltreatment of a child.

The Archdiocese of Milwaukee requires all adults, employee, or volunteer to comply with reporting responsibilities for any suspected abuse or neglect of minors, whether or not designated as a mandatory reporter under Wisconsin law.

Every instance of suspected child abuse or neglect must be reported no matter when it happened or where it happened. A volunteer in any program should discuss any concerns about sexual abuse, physical abuse, emotional maltreatment, or neglect of a minor with his/her immediate supervisor (such as a the Associate Director of Discipleship and Evangelization or teacher), and collaborate in making a report to local law enforcement officials or to local child protective service agencies.

In accordance with state law and moral obligation, any pastoral or school administrator, teacher, counselor, or related professional who has reasonable cause to suspect a child under the age of 18 seen in the course of their duties has been abused or neglected or has been threatened with abuse or neglect that is likely to occur is obligated to report the case immediately (as soon as possible but not more than 24 hours later). Reports must be made by telephone or personal visit to the local Child Protective Services or local law enforcement.

Definitions of Abuse and Neglect

- Child abuse is defined as any physical injury inflicted on a child by other than accidental means; sexual intercourse or sexual contact with a child; sexual exploitation of a child; permitting, allowing, or encouraging a child to be involved in prostitution; emotional damage inflicted on a child; or forcing a child to view sexually explicit activity.
- Neglect is defined as failure, refusal, or inability on the part of a parent, legal guardian, legal custodian, or other person exercising temporary or permanent control over a child for reasons other than poverty, to provide necessary care, food, clothing medical/dental care, and/or shelter to the child.

Mandatory Reporters

Wisconsin law lists many specific professionals who are mandated to report child abuse and neglect. Included among the list of mandatory reporters are the following:

- School teachers, administrators, counselors, substitute teachers, school employees
- Child-care worker or day care provider/center, childcare provider, in or out of the child's home
- A member of the clergy must report if the member of the clergy has reasonable cause to suspect that child seen by the member of the clergy in the course of his or her professional duties is being abused or threatened with abuse or has reason to believe that another member of the clergy is abusing a child or threatening a child of abuse.
- Mental health professionals, social workers, marriage and family therapists, professional counselors, alcohol or another drug abuse counselor
- Administrators of social service agencies
- Speech-language pathologist, audiologist
- Physician, nurse, physical therapist, occupational therapist; dentist, chiropractor, optometrist, acupuncturist, dietitian
- Police or law enforcement officer, emergency medical technician; first responder
- Public assistance worker, including a financial and employment planner, mediator

Whoever willfully violates Wis. Stat. 48.981 (2), Stats of the Wisconsin Children's Code by failure to report as required may be fined not more than \$1,000.00 or imprisoned not more than six (6) months or both. Any person or institution which reports in good faith is immune from either civil or criminal liability. All reports and records must be accorded confidential treatment by the authorities.

In the State of Wisconsin, the privilege of the priest/penitent relationship is not explicitly abrogated by this law; therefore, a confessor is not personally obligated to report such information obtained within the context of a formal structured sacramental confession. Due to the seriousness of this matter, with the exception of the sacramental confession noted above, all priests and parish personnel are expected to comply with this statute.

The archdiocese will take similar action if ever a matter of this gravity is brought to the attention of the archbishop or his representative.

Procedures for Reporting

- Generally, a mandated reporter must speak with the child to determine if a reasonable suspicion exists to believe that the child may have been abused. Once the mandated reporter has determined that a report needs to be made (or not), any questioning of the child regarding possible abuse should cease. To continue with questions could potentially contaminate any subsequent investigation by Child Protective Services or law enforcement.
- It is not unusual for a parent or a student to share concerns with an educator about the possible maltreatment of another child. A report should not be made at this point by the educator, unless there is a fear of serious and imminent danger to the child. Typically, the appropriate step is for the educator to meet with the child to gain first-hand knowledge of the situation (if time permits) to determine if a report is appropriate. The educator should encourage the person with the information to make a report to the Child Protective Services (CPS) agency. However, there is no assurance that will occur. It should be emphasized that an educator, as a mandated reporter, must have seen the child in the course of professional duties and have a reasonable suspicion that maltreatment has occurred. Those requirements are not necessary for an educator to make a report as a non-mandated reporter. Any person making a report in good faith is immune from civil and criminal liability.
- Sometimes an educator may be unsure whether or not a report should be made. In addition, sometimes a person with clinical skills (e.g., pupil services professional) needs to interact with the child to determine whether or not a report is required. In short, consultation is acceptable, but it cannot result in delaying a report. Another consultation strategy is for the educator to contact the county Child Protective Services (CPS) agency or a law enforcement officer, explain the situation, and ask for advice regarding whether a report should be made.
- If any mandated reporter has reason to believe that a child may have been abused or neglected, that person is legally required to report, even if others do not agree.
- When more than one educator is involved, the educator with the greatest amount of first-hand knowledge of the child and the reasons for the report should make the contact with

the Child Protective Services (CPS) agency or law enforcement. If more than one educator has firsthand and different knowledge of suspected child maltreatment, all of them should participate in the report. An educator with first-hand knowledge should not ask someone else with less knowledge to make a report. Asking someone else does not absolve the educator from the legal responsibility to report. However, another educator with less or no first-hand knowledge could help to facilitate the report, as long as this results in the educator with the most first-hand knowledge speaking directly to the CPS caseworker.

There are two ways to meet the legal requirement to report suspected abuse or neglect:

- Call the local Child Protective Services (CPS) agency, or
- Call local law enforcement

The reporter should be prepared to share detailed information, including:

- Reporter's name, position, parish/school, parish/school phone number.
- Child's name, address, and age.
- Reporter's relationship to the child.
- Parent's name, address, workplace (if applicable).
- Names and ages of siblings.
- Description of the suspected child abuse or neglect (or the threat of child abuse or neglect), statements made by the child, statements the child allegedly made to others, observations of the child that may indicate child abuse or neglect, past interactions with the parents or other caretakers that might be indicative of child abuse or neglect.
- Any previous reports of suspected abuse or neglect related to this child or family (if applicable).
- If a parent, guardian, or significant other could possibly be the abuser of the child or could be contributing to the maltreatment in some way, he/she should not be notified about the report. To do so would allow the accused, if he/she has maltreated the child or contributed to the maltreatment, to prepare an explanation that will make it more difficult for the Child Protective Services (CPS) initial assessment to result in services and better outcomes for the child. However, if any of the persons mentioned above are not suspected of being the abuser or of contributing to the maltreatment, then parents should be notified, in order for them to take steps to protect their child.
- Within 24 hours after receiving a report of abuse or neglect, the county CPS shall initiate an investigation to determine if the child is in need of protection or services. Elements of the investigation may include observation or interview with the child, visiting the child's home, or interviewing the parents/guardian. CPS can meet with the child in any place without the parent/guardian's permission but may not enter the home without permission.

ALCOHOL/DRUGS/TOBACCO

The possession, sale or use of alcohol, drugs, tobacco or any other controlled substances on the parish/school grounds, property or while participating in a parish sponsored event is strictly forbidden. Parents and or guardians will be notified, and violations will be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

FIREARMS, WEAPONS, DANGEROUS OBJECTS

Any object brought to the religious education programs that would endanger the safety of any or all participants is prohibited, and the offender is subject to discipline and expulsion procedures. Parents and or guardians will be notified, and violations will be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

FAITH FORMATION AND YOUTH MINISTRY FOR PERSONS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS AND/OR DISABILITIES

All persons with special needs and/or disabilities have the right to faith formation, youth ministry and sacramental preparation. If our parish cannot offer an appropriate placement; we will seek to join with other parishes to create acceptable options

CURRICULUM

Grades 1-8 will use "Image of God" by Ignatius Press

Grade 9 will use Y-Disciple and Catholic Youth Prayer Book by St. Mary Press

Grade 10 will use Y-Disciple and the DOCAT: What to do?

Catholic Social Teaching for Youth

Grade 11 will use the Confirmation program Y-Disciple and "Purpose" by Lifeteen.

IMAGE OF GOD

The Image of God religion series is an exciting and comprehensive Catholic program that has as its foundation the creation of human beings in God's own likeness. The greatest confirmation of man's unique dignity is the Incarnation of Christ, the God-man who is the perfect image of the Father and who reveals God as Love, especially by the Cross and Resurrection. In revealing God, Christ showed us who we are and how to act. This emphasis on the dignity of the individual child as the foundation of this series is taken from Scripture, the documents of Vatican II, and the writing of John Paul II. It presents the Catholic Faith in a stimulating and easy to read format that is being praised by teachers, pastors, and bishops.

Grade 1: Who Has God's Life?

Introduction to the Trinity with emphasis on the life of Jesus. Child learns about grace, what it is and does for us. Acquaints child with the Apostles and beginning of the Church, the plan of salvation and the child's part in that plan. Child learns about angels, sacraments, and the basic prayers.

Grade 2: Who Loves Me Always?

Special emphasis on the sacraments and commandments in preparation for receiving Reconciliation and the Holy Eucharist. The lessons emphasize God's mercy and love through the story of salvation history and the coming of Jesus our Savior; we act as images of God through receiving the sacraments and imitating the various saints' lives that are studied. Special focus on the Mass.

Grade 3: Who Is Our Example?

Emphasis on a deeper understanding of the nature and persons of God, and who we are as images of God. The powers that God gives us and how we should use them to imitate the perfect image of God, Jesus. We grow in our understanding of the Church, and participation in its life of grace. Mary our mother helps us to be like Jesus.

Grade 4: We Follow Jesus

Emphasizes the mystery of the Trinity and the student's response of Faith. Students learn about the creation of angels, the universe, and people as acts of God's love. The fall of the angels and the human persons is studied. Students study about Jesus and why He came. Special emphasis on grace and how it helps us to act as images of God by following the Ten Commandments.

Grade 5: Our Mission of Love

Emphasizing the creation of human beings as images of God: mind, will, and body. Original sin is discussed in conjunction with Jesus' mission to redeem us and to act as prophet, priest, and king. Special emphasis on the Church and how it carries on Jesus' mission of love. Through the Church, Jesus touches us in the sacraments and strengthens us to carry on His mission of love. Death and life after death are treated.

Grade 6: God's Merciful Love

Special emphasis on Genesis and the creation of human persons by God in His image. Also, the Old Testament is presented as a history of God's merciful love toward people. God's merciful love draws good out of evil and prepares for the coming of Jesus Christ. The covenant between God and Israel is an expression of God's merciful love.

Grade 7: Jesus, the Way, the Truth, the Life

Reviews the creation of the world and persons. Emphasizes the dignity of each human being as an image of God. Has students explore the possible vocations. The life, death, and resurrection of Jesus is reviewed through an analysis of the four gospels. The development of a well-formed conscience. Morality is rooted in God and proper moral behavior is an imitation of God.

Grade 8: Christ with Us Now and Always

Emphasizes Christ's living and active presence in the Church throughout its history. The lives of saints and other persons of importance serve as focal points for the history of the Church.

Y-DISCIPLE

At YDisciple, We Understand...

PROGRAMS DON'T MAKE DISCIPLES, DISCIPLES DO

A robust library of training content ranging from practical to spiritual skills helps train faithful adults to be more than instructors, but disciple-makers.

TEENS NEED TO BELONG IN ORDER TO BELIEVE

YDisciple gives you tools to create small group environments where teens are known, loved, and cared for.

AUTHENTICITY IS KING

With adolescents, you need to earn the right to be heard. Our video resources for teens center around personal testimony in order to communicate theological truth and are never filmed in a studio, but in real life.

FAMILIES ARE BUSY

A streaming platform allows groups access anywhere and anytime, working with families' schedules.

PARENTS MATTER

Study after study shows that no one has more influence on teenager than his or her parents. YDisciple provides strategies for engaging parents and parent resources to help parents engage their teens in meaningful conversation.

ST. MARY PRESS

Catholic Youth Prayer Book

The Catholic Youth Prayer Book empowers teens to become prayerful people. In this beautifully bound, easily digestible keepsake prayer book, teens will find several methods and ways to pray. The Catholic Youth Prayer Book guides teens in how to establish a prayer life, connect with saints and practice meditation.

DOCAT: WHAT TO DO?

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING FOR YOUTH

Catholic Social Teaching has been called by some the church's "best-kept secret". DOCAT is revealing that secret to young people around the world. Helps young people know and live Catholic Social Teaching. Special Features include Question-and-Answer format; illustrations, full-color photos of young people, other images; and quotes including comments from St. John Paul II, Pope Francis, Mother Teresa, Pope Benedict, and others. Written with help from church leaders, business leaders, social activists, and young people. Guides young people in the formation of conscience and Catholic action on social and political issues.

PURPOSE

Purpose is a transformative approach to confirmation. Multiple components combine impactful curriculum with a powerful digital tool to enhance communication and ease administrative tasks. Coupled with engaging supplementary material for teens and parents, Purpose is more than just a resource. It is a whole new approach to sacramental preparation.

The Purpose curriculum has a heavy focus on evangelizing young people and accompanying them as they become disciples. The curriculum addresses three big questions, "Why believe in God?", "Why trust Jesus?" and "Why be a part of the Church?"

All MIDDLE SCHOOL and HIGH SCHOOL students are required to participate in 10 hours of service as part of our calling to live our faith as disciples of Christ. Family service projects will count toward completion of the 10 hours of service.

SACRAMENT PROGRAM

The Faith Formation program includes preparation and reception of three sacraments each year: First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, and Confirmation.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

To best serve our children's faith formation and foster a deep relationship with God, the Confirmation preparation program for teenagers not enrolled in Catholic schools is now a three-year program and first reconciliation/communion is now a two-year program. However, if you have a current junior, the confirmation program will be one year. If you have a current second grader, the sacramental preparation will likewise be one year.

Reconciliation and Eucharist are normally received in second grade, but older children (typically in third or fourth grade) who have not yet received are invited to participate as well. There are parental instructional sessions for each sacrament.

FIRST RECONCILIATION/FIRST EUCHARIST (GRADE 2)

Preparation for the Sacrament of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist will take place through our Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Program. Please register your second-grade child for a Level 2 slot.

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CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Children ages 3-12 are invited to deepen their relationship with God through Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, a program focused on the joy of the encounter with the Good Shepherd, rooted in Scripture, Liturgy and based on a Montessori educational methodology.

Reconciliation and First Eucharist is celebrated in late April or early May.

To be eligible for the reception of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist in 2022, students must be enrolled in the St. Anthony or St. Mary Faith Formation classes, or a local private Catholic

grade school. Per archdiocesan policy, children cannot receive First Eucharist without first preparing for and receiving First Reconciliation.

Confirmation

Confirmation is offered for juniors in high school and is celebrated in late April or early May. Faith Formation classes in all high school grades are geared toward this sacrament. In junior year, in addition to attending classes, the Confirmation Candidate, Sponsor and Parents must meet these other requirements:

- Candidate and Parents attend a Confirmation Candidate/Parent meeting session at the beginning of the year.
- Candidate selects a Sponsor and both Candidate and Sponsor attend a Candidate/Sponsor retreat in the spring.
- Candidate attends a weekend retreat geared towards Confirmation
- Candidate performs a minimum of 10 service hours
- Candidate completes all the required paperwork/Saint Paper
- Candidate writes a letter to the confirming Bishop
- Candidate and Sponsor attend Confirmation rehearsal prior to Confirmation
- Candidate and Sponsor attend the Confirmation Mass/Rite

Juniors who attend a local Catholic high school and want to be confirmed must enroll in the parish Faith Formation grade 11/Confirmation program. Catholic high schools do not offer Confirmation-specific preparation as part of their religious education curriculum because the Archbishop wants Confirmation done through the parishes with participation by the Candidates from both public and Catholic high schools.

Students who have not yet received these sacraments, and who fall outside these age groups, are encouraged to enroll in RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) or RCIC (Rite of Christian Initiation for Children). There is an active RCIA/RCIC program at St. Anthony & St. Mary, and those interested should contact the parish office for more information.

RETREATS

All 6-10 grade students are required to attend a retreat experience.
All Grade 11 students are required to attend a Confirmation Retreat.

Wednesday February 2, 2022

Middle School (Grades 6-8) NET Retreat
Further details to come.

Sunday February 20, 2022

High School (Grades 9-10) NET Retreat
Further details to come.

Saturday March 19, 2022

**Wisconsin Catholic Youth Rally
(Grades 6-10)**

Location: Carroll University in Waukesha **Time:** 10:00am-6:00pm **Transportation:** TBD

For questions about the program please contact the following:

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