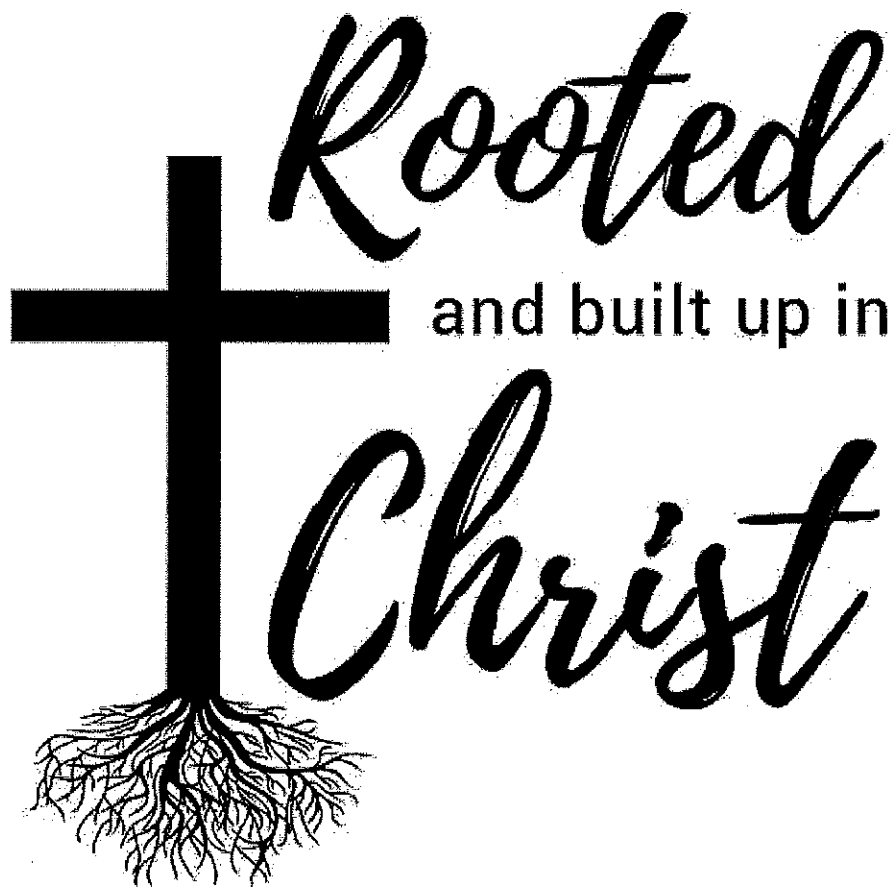


Light of the World

2018-2019 Religious Education Handbook, Calendar, and Registration Form



Basics of the Faith: Prayers & Teachings

In order to live a life of discipleship, we must understand the basics of our faith. Participants entering our programs may know many of the prayers and teachings of the faith. Building on this, we strive to teach as much of our basics as possible so all can remember these fundamentals, live them out, and be able explain them to others.

Participation: Class Attendance

It is an expectation that registered participants will attend each class and experience offered during the year not only to enhance their faith journey, but others as well. Keeping consistent participation is key in faith sharing and growth. Attendance is taken each week. Excused absences include: illness and family emergencies. Excessive tardiness is a concern and may lead to a discussion about what is causing the absences or tardiness.

Please call or email Sherry Plaetz @ 342-5474 or splaetz@wabassostannesschool.com if your child (ren) will be absent to any class or religious education event.

Participation: Mass

Regular participation in weekly Mass is a part of our Catholic faith, and living our lives as disciples. The Eucharist is the Source and Summit of our faith, and it is hoped that anyone involved in our program will attend and enter into the experience of the Eucharist each Sunday and on Holy Days of Obligation. For Mass times anywhere in the USA please visit: www.masstimes.org

Sacraments

We offer the Sacraments and Sacrament Preparation for: 1st Communion, 1st Reconciliation, and Confirmation. Sacramental prep includes additional requirements depending upon the Sacrament.

Reconciliation

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered to our students during the Advent and Lent seasons, for additional time offered—see bulletin each week. Time is taken to explain as well as to walk everyone through the process of Reconciliation. We support our families in sharing this Sacrament often, and recognizing the special graces that come from participation in this gift of healing.

Weather

There will be no religious education classes if Wabasso Public School cancels school or lets out early due to weather. There are circumstances where late-arriving inclement weather may also cancel classes. Check your email or KLGR for any announcements. We also support any family decisions not to send their child(ren) out in questionable weather.

Communication

Bulletin announcements will have updates and weekly information.

K-12 Parent/Guardian Involvement

Every person in the parish has a role to play in the faith journey of youth—by providing positive example of an actively lived Catholic faith, prayer support, and encouragement. But, parents and guardians are the primary teacher of the faith. We encourage all to participate in our parent gatherings and adult formation to continue your faith journey. Please feel free to call with any questions you might have about any part of our program. Parents/guardians, as the primary teachers of the faith, your children look forward to your prayers, example, and support as they grow and prepare to live the Catholic life.

K-12th Grade Class Times

Classes meet on Wednesday each week. The K-6th grade meet 3:10 - 4:30pm and the 7-12th grade meet 7:15—8:30 pm. Please drop off and pick up your child(ren) at the correct times. It is your responsibility to make sure your ride is here on time, or notified if other arrangements are made.

Cell Phones

Cell phones and other electronics are a distraction and take participants away from the present moment. These may be brought to class if needed, but need to be shut off and left in a basket at the door until class is over. We are not responsible for any electronics lost or stolen that youth may bring with them. When found to be disruptive, it will be taken away and given back at the end of class. In case of emergencies, we will have a phone available, in addition to the office phone.

Expectations

We have a few, simple expectations for our participants that are expected to be followed, to help create a positive learning and faith sharing environment:

1. that you respect others as well as the church building
2. that you arrive before or on time for class and leave in an orderly, safe manner
3. that you participate in class and keep a positive attitude
4. that you are self controlled in your actions and your words
5. that you clean up after yourself and others
6. that you support your catechists, aides, and staff
7. that you care about those around you
8. that you share your ideas and questions
9. that you are dressed in clothing that is appropriate for the place and weather conditions
10. that you have fun and enjoy yourself, helping others to have a positive experience

Behavior

Because you are choosing to be part of this program, we hope that you are enthusiastic and excited to be part of our community. Negative attitudes and behaviors will not be tolerated, and hurtful habitual actions will lead to parent/guardian meetings and possible consequences.

Diocesan Compliance

Our programs follows the polices set forth by the Diocese of New Ulm in curriculum and the safe environment program, Virtus. Each of our staff and catechists have taken the training, have had background checks, and are in compliance with the Diocesan standard for safe environment training.

Discipline

Along with the expectations we have for our participants; we expect all to support our discipline policies and help implement them. They are as follows:

1. **First Offense:** Ask student to leave the room if behavior is disruptive or distracting other student's right to learn. Student may return to class, if deemed appropriate.
2. **Second Offense:** Same as first offense, and a phone call to parents to discuss the situation. Sherry will discuss with the parents to determine what needs to take place to improve the situation.
3. **Third Offense:** If behavior does not improve, future action will be taken which may involve: individual classes with Sherry, mandatory parent participation, and/or homeschooling. Situations will be handled with individual needs considered, and on a case-by-case basis.

Offenses that will not be tolerated in any situation include, but are not limited to:

- Bullying or harassment of any kind—verbal, physical, sexual, or electronic
- Possession of alcohol or drugs—legal or illegal substances
- Possession of weapons of any kind

In the event one of the above acts occur, proper authorities will be called, followed by a phone call to the parents.

Our discipline policy is not put into place because we wish to be strict and mean. Rather, it is in place because we wish that everyone is safe, and has an environment that promotes growth and positive, fun learning. Enjoyable events cannot take place when discipline problems are persistent, thus our policies are in place to protect and promote the individuals right to learn, enjoy their journey, and have fun (within reason).