

NEW FAMILY MENTOR PROGRAM GUIDE

The NEW FAMILY MENTOR Program guide provides tools and resources to use to help build a relationship with a new family as well as help the new family to become accustomed and most importantly feel welcome into the St. George School Community. This resource will offer guidelines for meeting frequency, talking points, suggested discussion questions and additional resources that may be useful for the new family.

Program Overview

This formal mentoring relationship is just one of many opportunities St. George School offers to support and engage our newest families. New Family Mentors assist in building stronger engagement early in the new family's initiation into the school community by offering insight about the culture, building a faith-filled relationship and highlighting resources provided by the school.

It is recommended that you engage in one, 1-hour meeting per month throughout the first school year. During the following years, it is recommended that the families continue to engage in meetings and participating in parish life and school events together.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

At the beginning of the mentoring relationship, the mentor family is responsible for scheduling meetings and driving the conversation. As the relationship progresses, the mentee family is expected to begin to take a more active role by anticipating questions to ask.

| THE ROLE OF THE MENTOR FAMILY IS ... | THE ROLE OF THE MENTEE IS ... |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide support to help facilitate a smooth transition | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Actively engage in the mentoring relationship by meeting with the mentor family and following up on any commitments. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be additional support for the mentee, not a substitute for the principal or teacher | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensure principal is kept up-to-date on the relationship. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Offer insights about the St. George School Culture to help the new family acclimate more quickly. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ask questions and share ideas, thoughts and concerns. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be a resource for questions about the school. (e.g. mission, history, events and resources available to help build faith, school-pride and student success. | |

SUMMER MEETING (BEFORE AUGUST):

PURPOSE:

- To begin building the relationship by getting to know each other.
- To share your enthusiasm about belonging to the St. George School Community.
- To acclimate the new family to the life of St. George School.
- To familiarize and/or increase the new family’s awareness to living a faith-filled life.

HOW TO PREPARE:

- **MENTOR:** Familiarize yourself with the New Mentor Guidelines and Parent/Student Handbook
- **MENTOR:** Have a general working knowledge of key topics such as: Key school personnel (i.e. principal, school secretary, etc.); Communication avenues (i.e Facebook); Mass times at St. George as well as all affiliated parishes; Upcoming School Yearly calendar; General information for getting their child ready for school; Fees; Dress Code; etc.
- **MENTEE:** Familiarize yourself with the New Mentor Handbook and Parent/Student Handbook. Acquaint yourself with the upcoming School Calendar. Prepare specific questions to help you organize your family schedule to include your child’s school activities.

SUGGESTED DISCUSSION FORMAT:

- Welcome the New Family to St. George School.
- Explain the mentor’s role and how it differs from the classroom teachers, pastor and the principal roles.

| Mentor: | Mentee: |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are you looking for in St. George School? • What goals do you have for your children? How do you believe St. George School can help your child(ren) achieve these? • What parish do you belong to? • If non-Catholic family, what church do you belong to? • What is your occupation? Why did you choose it? • What activities do you like to do as a family outside of school? What books, music, movies, or sports do enjoy? • What are you hoping to get out of this mentoring relationship? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How long has your family been a part of St. George School? • What committees have you served on at both the parish and school level? • What do you like about sending your child to St. George School? • What do you find challenging about sending your child to St. George School? • What activities do you like to do as a family outside of school? What books, music, movies, or sports do enjoy? • Have you ever worked with a new family before? If so, what did you value in the relationship? • What do you think makes a great school? |

| Follow-up Questions | Upcoming events |
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| → Do you have any questions about the registration paperwork? → Do you have questions about anything in preparing your child(ren) for school? | → New Family Dinner → Back-to-School Night → Rolling on the River (LRPC Fundraiser) |

| The Role of a Mentor Family... | The roles of the teacher, principal or pastor... |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide peer support to help facilitate the mechanism through which new families acquire the necessary knowledge, skills, and involvement to become effective school families. • Be additional support for the new family, not a substitute for the teacher, principal or pastor. • Offer insight about the St. George School Community to help the new family acclimate more quickly. • Be a resource for questions about school life. (i.e. policies, procedures, traditions, events, etc.) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct the faith, educational, social, emotional, behavioral and physical development of your child(ren). • Provide feedback on the overall child(ren)'s performance in the above mentioned areas. • Develop and discuss the educational development and expectations for your child(ren). • Address questions regarding the development and performance of your child(ren). |

ACTION:

- Review the purpose of the New Family Mentor Program
- Provide an overview of the St. George School Community.
- Plan an activity that involves getting to know each other's family.
- Confirm time to meet for the Back-to-School Night.
- Confirm next meeting date and time

FOLLOW-UP:

- **MENTOR:** Make note of questions or topic that you were not able to address during the session.
- **MENTOR:** Follow-up with administration with questions, concerns and/or overview of from meeting.

AUGUST MEETING (AFTER BACK-TO-SCHOOL NIGHT):

PURPOSE:

- To complete remaining items from first meeting, if needed.
- To check on how the New Family is adjusting to school life.
- To continue building the relationship, getting to know each other and answering additional questions.
- To gain a deeper understanding of the St. George School community.
- To review the Virtue Based Restorative Discipline Program.

HOW TO PREPARE:

- **MENTOR:** Review what was covered in the previous meeting and prepare to address any questions or topics that may need additional time.
- **MENTOR:** Prepare a list of two or three families (within the grade(s) of the new family’s child(ren)) who would be good contacts for the new family to assist them begin building a parent network. Think about families who live the school community’s values and could share their work ethic, enthusiasm, and knowledge about the school.
- **MENTEE:** Prepare specific questions to help you organize your family schedule to include your child’s school activities.
- **BOTH:** Review *THE CATHOLIC MASS, TRADITIONS AND RITUALS* section in the New Family Guide.
- **BOTH:** Familiarize yourself with the information from the month’s newsletter, Facebook posts, and other communication that was sent out.

SUGGESTED DISCUSSION FORMAT:

- Explain the role of the child(ren) in the Children’s Liturgy.
- Explain the expectations of volunteering for the LRPC fundraising event: *Rolling on the River*

| Mentor: | Mentee: |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How was your experience at the Back-to-School event? How helpful was the night for your family? Was there something that needed to be added to help your family’s transition? • Are you receiving the school communications? How helpful are they? If they are not helpful what do you need from them in order for them to be useful? • Do you understand what VIRTUS is? Have you signed up for the training? • Have you purchased SCRIP? Do you understand how it helps your family and | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is VBRD? What is a circle and how do I use it in my family life? • What did your child tell you they learned about the virtue of the month in their faith group activity? • What did your family do for the VBRD homework? • What is the weekend Children Liturgy? • What are the expectations for the Fish Fry? • What are the expectation of attending the Home and School meeting? |

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| <p>the school?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain what the school bank is and what their family needs to do so their child can take advantage of it. • What has your child shared about their school experience? Has your child told you about their Buddy? | |
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| Follow-up Questions | Upcoming events |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → How do you feel about the school year so far? → How has your child(ren) adjusted to school? → Do you have any questions about what we have/have not discussed? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Fish Fry hosted by the Home & School (What Grade works/Dessert?) → Children’s Liturgy: VIRTUE Mass → Faith Groups → Weekly SCRIP Sales → Home & School Mtg. → Open House: Parent Information Night → Mission Week & Light the Night Concert → Church of the Risen Savior (CRS): Fall Pilgrimage → School Bank |

ACTION:

- Suggest other families (within their child’s grade) who may be good connections for the new family; you may even wish to send an email introducing them to each other virtually to get the ball rolling.
- Exchange personal contact information.
- Confirm to meet at the Home & School mtg. Explain the reward of the attendance is an out-of-uniform pass for their child(ren).
- Confirm next meeting date and time

FOLLOW-UP:

- **MENTOR:** Make note of questions or topic that you were not able to address during the session.
- **MENTOR:** Follow-up with administration with questions, concerns and/or overview of from meeting.

SEPTEMBER MEETING (AFTER HOME & SCHOOL MTG.):

PURPOSE:

- To complete remaining items from previous meeting, if needed.
- To review the St. George School Mission and Philosophy.
- Discuss the role each school family plays in carry out the mission.
- Discuss how each family is living the virtue of the month.

HOW TO PREPARE:

- **MENTOR:** Ask your child’s teacher, principal and/or pastor to share their insight about the mission and culture of St. George School.
- **BOTH:** Familiarize yourself with the mission and philosophy of St. George School.
- **BOTH:** Review *SERVICES* section in the New Family Guide.
- **BOTH:** Familiarize yourself with the information from the month’s newsletter, Facebook posts, and other communication that was sent out.
- **MENTOR:** Review what was covered in the previous meeting and prepare to address any questions or topics that may need additional time.
- **MENTEE:** Prepare specific questions to help you organize your family schedule to include your child’s school activities.

SUGGESTED DISCUSSION FORMAT:

- Explain your role in carrying out the mission and philosophy of St. George School.
- Share how your family is living the virtue of the month.
- Share the information you gleaned from the Open House for parents.
- Explain the format of Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences.

| Mentor: | Mentee: |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. George School Mission: St. George School is a faith-based community which fosters Catholic values while empowering student with strong academics.” What does this mean to your family? • What are your impressions of St. George School culture so far? How does it differ from your own school experience or from what you thought it would be? • Think of the activities, families and experiences you have had so far. How do you feel they are helping your family to adjust to school life? • How helpful was the Home & School meeting? What can be added to help your | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. George School Mission: St. George School is a faith-based community which fosters Catholic values while empowering student with strong academics.” What does this mean to your family? • What are your impressions of St. George School culture? How does it differ from your own school experience or from what you thought it would be? • How have the activities, families and experiences you have participated in, and met helping your family to live a faith-filled life? • What can I expect at the Light to Night Concert? |

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| <p>family's acclimation?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Were you able to attend the Fish Fry? Did your family have to work at it? • What you can expect in regards to parent/teacher conferences? • Have you attended a home volleyball game? Share what the school mascot is, the possible cost of food and admission price. Explain what "Buddy Night" is. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does my child(ren) need to know in order to be prepared for the Mission Week activities? • What does my child(ren) need to know in order to be prepared for the cakewalk event? • What does my family need to do in order to be prepared to participate in Sandwich Day? • What is the <i>BOOK FAIR</i> and is it mandatory to participate? • What did your child tell you they learned about the virtue of the month in their faith group activity? • What did your family do for the VBRD homework |
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| Follow-up Questions | Upcoming events |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → How do you feel your family is adjusting to the rigors of school life? → How was your child(ren)'s first month of school? → Do you have any questions about what we have/have not discussed? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Fish Fry hosted by the Home & School (What Grade works/Dessert?) → Children's Liturgy: VIRTUE Mass → Faith Groups → Weekly SCRIP Sales → Health screenings → St. George Parish (SGS): Fall Smorgasbord → Hermann High School Homecoming Parade → Balloon Rosary → Parent/Teacher Conferences → Mommy/Son Monster Mash → 8th gr. Halloween Cake walk → Fall Book Fair → Sandwich Day |

ACTION:

- Suggest other families the New Family might reach out to get more information on how the school lives its mission and philosophy.
- Confirm to meet at the Light to Night Concert.
- Confirm next meeting date and time

FOLLOW-UP:

- ***MENTOR***: Make note of questions or topic that you were not able to address during the session.
- ***MENTOR***: Follow-up with administration with questions, concerns and/or overview of from meeting.

OCTOBER MEETING:

PURPOSE:

- To complete remaining items from previous meeting, if needed.
- Reflect on the First Quarter to identify areas of focus to further explain significance.
- Discuss how each family is living the virtue of the month.

HOW TO PREPARE:

- **MENTOR:** Share personal accounts of the struggles your family has to certain events and activities.
- **BOTH:** Review *PARENT INFORMATION* section in the New Family Guide.
- **BOTH:** Familiarize yourself with the information from the month’s newsletter, Facebook posts, and other communication that was sent out.
- **MENTOR:** Review what was covered in the previous meeting and prepare to address any questions or topics that may need additional time.
- **MENTEE:** Prepare specific questions to help you organize your family schedule to include your child’s school activities.

SUGGESTED DISCUSSION FORMAT:

- Share how your family is living the virtue of the month.
- Review the format of Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences.

| Mentor: | Mentee: |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Share your child(ren)’s experience of the Light the Night Concert.• What are your questions about the format of Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences? Do you need help in preparing for it?• What are some things your family is doing to live the virtue of the month?• What will your family do to celebrate Halloween? | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How do you prepare for Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences?• What are some things your family is doing to live the virtue of the month?• What are the school’s traditions on celebrating Halloween at school?• What will your family do to celebrate Halloween?• What did your child tell you they learned about the virtue of the month in their faith group activity?• What did your family do for the VBRD homework |

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| Follow-up Questions | Upcoming events |
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| <p>→ How was your child(ren)'s first quarter of school?</p> <p>→ Do you have any questions about what we have/have not discussed?</p> | <p>→ Sports News (Age Appropriate Athletics)</p> <p>→ All Saints Day Mass (Students and Parents)</p> <p>→ All Souls Day~Cemetery Mass</p> <p>→ Fish Fry hosted by the Home & School (What Grade works/Dessert?)</p> <p>→ Children's Liturgy: VIRTUE Mass</p> <p>→ Faith Groups</p> <p>→ Home & School Meeting</p> <p>→ Robotic Competition</p> <p>→ Thanksgiving Break</p> <p>→ Christmas SCRIP Sales</p> <p>→ Amazon Sales</p> |
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ACTION:

- Confirm plans for Halloween.
- Confirm to meet at the November Home & School mtg.
- Confirm next meeting date and time

FOLLOW-UP:

- **MENTOR:** Make note of questions or topic that you were not able to address during the session.
- **MENTOR:** Follow-up with administration with questions, concerns and/or overview of from meeting.

NOVEMBER MEETING:

PURPOSE:

- To complete remaining items from previous meeting, if needed.
- Reflect on the past few months to identify areas that are still confusing.
- Discuss how each family is living the virtue of the month.

HOW TO PREPARE:

- **MENTOR:** Share personal organizational techniques to keep the family schedule on track while preparing for the holidays.
- **BOTH:** Review *SCHOOL TRADITIONS* section in the New Family Guide.
- **BOTH:** Familiarize yourself with the information from the month's newsletter, Facebook posts, and other communication that was sent out.
- **MENTOR:** Review what was covered in the previous meeting and prepare to address any questions or topics that may need additional time.
- **MENTEE:** Prepare specific questions to help you organize your family schedule to include your child's school activities.

SUGGESTED DISCUSSION FORMAT:

- Share how your family is living the virtue of the month.

| Mentor: | Mentee: |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Share your child(ren)'s experience of Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences.• In what way was that experience different than you expected?• What are some things your family is doing to live the virtue of the month?• Share the severe <i>Weather Policy</i>• What will your family do to celebrate Thanksgiving? | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Share your child(ren)'s experience of Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences.• What was your experience on the first Sandwich Day?• What are some things your family is doing to live the virtue of the month?• What are the school's traditions on celebrating Thanksgiving at school?• What will your family do to celebrate Thanksgiving?• What did your child tell you they learned about the virtue of the month in their faith group activity?• What did your family do for the VBRD homework |

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| Follow-up Questions | Upcoming events |
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| <p>→ Give an example of something going great.</p> <p>→ Do you have any questions about what we have/have not discussed?</p> | <p>→ Fish Fry hosted by the Home & School (What Grade works/Dessert?)</p> <p>→ Children’s Liturgy: VIRTUE Mass</p> <p>→ Faith Groups</p> <p>→ Advent/Giving Tree</p> <p>→ Parish Mission</p> <p>→ Christmas Bazaar</p> <p>→ Christmas Concert</p> <p>→ Christmas Break</p> |
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ACTION:

- Examine the SCRIP purchase sheet together and review the benefits of using the program.
- Confirm to meet at the Advent Parish Mission.
- Confirm to meet at the Christmas Bazaar.
- Confirm next meeting date and time.

FOLLOW-UP:

- **MENTOR:** Make note of questions or topic that you were not able to address during the session.
- **MENTOR:** Follow-up with administration with questions, concerns and/or overview of from meeting.

DECEMBER MEETING:

PURPOSE:

- To complete remaining items from previous meeting, if needed.
- Reflect on the past few months to identify areas that are becoming part of your family’s routine.
- Identify areas that your family is still struggling with.
- Discuss how each family is living the virtue of the month.

HOW TO PREPARE:

- **MENTOR:** Review inclement *Weather Policy*.
- **MENTEE:** Prepare specific questions to help you organize your family schedule to include your child’s school activities.
- **BOTH:** Familiarize yourself with the information from the month’s newsletter, Facebook posts, and other communication that was sent out.
- **MENTOR:** Review what was covered in the previous meeting and prepare to address any questions or topics that may need additional time.
- **MENTEE:** Prepare specific questions to help you organize your family schedule to include your child’s school activities.

SUGGESTED DISCUSSION FORMAT:

- Share how your family is living the virtue of the month.

| Mentor: | Mentee: |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How is your family surviving school life while preparing for the holidays?• How is being apart of the St. George School community helping your family prepare for Christmas?• Do you have questions about the November Home & School mtg.?• What are some things your family is doing to live the virtue of the month?• What has surprised you most about being a part of the St. George School community? | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Over the years, what has surprised you most about being a part of the St. George School community?• How has your opinion changed about St. George school through the years?• What did your child tell you they learned about the virtue of the month in their faith group activity?• What did your family do for the VBRD homework• What are some things your family is doing to live the virtue of the month?• How does your family keep the Advent season?• What will your family do to celebrate Christmas? |

| Follow-up Questions | Upcoming events |
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| <p>→ How has having a Mentor helped your family to adjust to school life? What are some suggestions to make the program better meet your needs?</p> <p>→ Do you have any questions about what we have/have not discussed?</p> | <p>→ Fish Fry hosted by the Home & School (What Grade works/Dessert?)</p> <p>→ Children’s Liturgy: VIRTUE Mass</p> <p>→ Faith Groups</p> <p>→ 2nd qrt. Report Cards come home</p> <p>→ Home & School mtg.</p> <p>→ Basketball games (Check website for schedule)</p> <p>→ Catholic School Week Activities</p> |

ACTION:

- Confirm to meet at the January Home & School mtg.
- Confirm next meeting date and time.

FOLLOW-UP:

- **MENTOR:** Make note of questions or topic that you were not able to address during the session.
- **MENTOR:** Follow-up with administration with questions, concerns and/or overview of from meeting.

JANUARY MEETING:

PURPOSE:

- To complete remaining items from previous meeting, if needed.
- Reflect on the past few months to identify areas that are becoming part of your family's routine.
- Identify areas that your family is still struggling with.
- Discuss how each family is living the virtue of the month.

HOW TO PREPARE:

- **BOTH:** Familiarize yourself with the information from the month's newsletter, Facebook posts, and other communication that was sent out.
- **MENTOR:** Review what was covered in the previous meeting and prepare to address any questions or topics that may need additional time.
- **MENTEE:** Prepare specific questions to help you organize your family schedule to include your child's school activities.

SUGGESTED DISCUSSION FORMAT:

- Share how your family is living the virtue of the month.
- Share how your family celebrated the birth of our Lord.

| Mentor: | Mentee: |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How is your family adjusting to the school routine after Christmas break?• What are our impressions of St. George School half way through the school year?• How did the first part of the school year go for your child(ren)?• What are some things your family is doing to live the virtue of the month?• What are the Christmas traditions of your family? | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Share your concerns or things that have been missed which limited your child's adjustment.• Your impression of the first half of the years events and activities.• What are some things your family is doing to live the virtue of the month?• How can my family be prepared for the Catholic School Week Activities?• What did your child tell you they learned about the virtue of the month in their faith group activity?• What did your family do for the VBRD homework |

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| Follow-up Questions | Upcoming events |
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| <p>→ How has having a Mentor helped your family to adjust to school life? What are some suggestions to make the program better meet your needs?</p> <p>→ Do you have any questions about what we have/have not discussed?</p> | <p>→ Fish Fry hosted by the Home & School (What Grade works/Dessert?)</p> <p>→ Children's Liturgy: VIRTUE Mass</p> <p>→ Faith Groups</p> <p>→ Hermann High School Incoming Freshmen Orientation (family specific)</p> <p>→ 8th gr. 2nd Cakewalk</p> <p>→ CRS Whitetail Dinner</p> <p>→ SGS Shrimp Boil</p> <p>→ Pack the Gym/Buddy Night at a home basketball game (Check website for schedule)</p> <p>→ 8th gr. Athlete Recognition (family specific)</p> |
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ACTION:

- Confirm to meet at the Pack-the-Gym/Buddy Night
- Confirm next meeting date and time.

FOLLOW-UP:

- **MENTOR:** Make note of questions or topic that you were not able to address during the session.
- **MENTOR:** Follow-up with administration with questions, concerns and/or overview of from meeting.

FEBRUARY MEETING:

PURPOSE:

- To complete remaining items from previous meeting, if needed.
- Reflect on the past few months to identify areas that are becoming part of your family’s routine.
- Reflect on how has your perception of the school has changed over the past six months.
- Identify areas that your family is still struggling with.
- Discuss how each family is living the virtue of the month.

HOW TO PREPARE:

- **BOTH:** Familiarize yourself with the information from the month’s newsletter, Facebook posts, and other communication that was sent out.
- **MENTOR:** Review what was covered in the previous meeting and prepare to address any questions or topics that may need additional time.
- **MENTEE:** Prepare specific questions to help you organize your family schedule to include your child’s school activities.

SUGGESTED DISCUSSION FORMAT:

- Share how your family uses the Lenten season to grow in their faith.
- Share how your family is living the virtue of the month.
- Share your family’s insight on Catholic School Week.

| Mentor: | Mentee: |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How is your family the busyness of school life with the obligations of home-life?• What can I help you with to better balance the two entities?• How have your concerns been addressed this year?• How have your thoughts about what makes a great school changed? If so, in what way has it changed? | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How does your family balance the busyness of school life with the obligations of home-life?• What did your child tell you they learned about the virtue of the month from their faith group activity?• What are some things your family is doing to live the virtue of the month?• What are you still find challenging about sending your child to St. George School?• How have your thoughts about what makes a great school changed? If so, in what way has it changed? |

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| Follow-up Questions | Upcoming events |
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| <p>→ How has having a Mentor helped your family to adjust to school life?</p> <p>→ What are some suggestions to make the program better meet the needs of new families?</p> <p>→ Do you have any questions about what we have/have not discussed?</p> | <p>→ No Fish Fry during the Lenten</p> <p>→ Children’s Liturgy: VIRTUE Mass</p> <p>→ Faith Groups</p> <p>→ Daddy/Daughter Dance</p> <p>→ Home & School Mtg.</p> <p>→ Weekly Stations of the Cross</p> <p>→ Preschool/Prekindergarten/Kindergarten Round-up (Family Specific)</p> <p>→ 8th Grade High School Shadow Day (Family Specific)</p> |
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ACTION:

- Confirm to meet at the Home & School mtg.
- Generate a list of potential preschoolers (3 yr olds), pre-kindergarteners (4 yr olds), kindergarteners, and new students and send the list to the school office.
- Confirm next meeting date and time.

FOLLOW-UP:

- **MENTOR:** Make note of questions or topic that you were not able to address during the session.
- **MENTOR:** Follow-up with administration with questions, concerns and/or overview of from meeting.

MARCH MEETING:

PURPOSE:

- To complete remaining items from previous meeting, if needed.
- Discuss how each family is living the virtue of the month.

HOW TO PREPARE:

- **BOTH:** Familiarize yourself with the information from the month’s newsletter, Facebook posts, and other communication that was sent out.
- **MENTOR:** Review what was covered in the previous meeting and prepare to address any questions or topics that may need additional time.
- **MENTEE:** Prepare specific questions to help you organize your family schedule to include your child’s school activities.

SUGGESTED DISCUSSION FORMAT:

- Share how your family will celebrate the great Christian celebration of Easter.
- Share how your family is living the virtue of the month.

| Mentor: | Mentee: |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk about the significance of the Lenten season and how it helps Christians to joyfully celebrate Easter. • Provide suggestion on what families can prayerfully do during the Lenten Season? • What are some things your family is doing to live the virtue of the month? • How is living the virtue of the month helping your family have a more prayerful Lent? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What did your child tell you they learned about the virtue of the month from their faith group activity? • What are some things your family is doing to live the virtue of the month? • How is living the virtue of the month helping your family have a more prayerful Lent? |

| Follow-up Questions | Upcoming events |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → How has having a Mentor helped your family to adjust to school life? What are some suggestions to make the program better meet your needs? → Do you have any questions about what we have/have not discussed? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → No Fish Fry during the Lenten → Children’s Liturgy: VIRTUE Mass → Faith Groups → Weekly Stations → Preschool/Prekindergarten/Kindergarten Open House (Family Specific) |

ACTION:

- Confirm next meeting date and time.

FOLLOW-UP:

- ***MENTOR***: Make note of questions or topic that you were not able to address during the session.
- ***MENTOR***: Follow-up with administration with questions, concerns and/or overview of from meeting.

APRIL MEETING:

PURPOSE:

- To complete remaining items from previous meeting, if needed.
- Discuss how each family is living the virtue of the month.

HOW TO PREPARE:

- **BOTH:** Familiarize yourself with the information from the month’s newsletter, Facebook posts, and other communication that was sent out.
- **MENTOR:** Review what was covered in the previous meeting and prepare to address any questions or topics that may need additional time.
- **MENTEE:** Prepare specific questions to help you organize your family schedule to include your child’s school activities.

SUGGESTED DISCUSSION FORMAT:

- Share how your family will celebrate the great Christian celebration of Easter.
- Share how your family is living the virtue of the month.

| Mentor: | Mentee: |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recall and reflect on what your new family was looking for in St. George School. Ask: how has St. George School met the needs of your child/family? • Recall the goals your new family had for their child(ren). Ask: how do you believe St. George School helped your child(ren) achieve these? • How has the New Family Mentor Program helped your child/family adjust to school life? • What do you need to help organize your child(ren)’s final days at school? • How do you think the virtue program made a difference in your family’s life? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has having a new family this year made a difference in your own family’s routine and/or life? • How do you think the virtue program made a difference in your family’s life? |

| Follow-up Questions | Upcoming events |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → How would you describe the mentor and the new family experience ? → How can the New Family Program be expanded or what needs to be changed? → Share your questions, concerns and | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Fish Fry hosted by the Home & School (What Grade works/Dessert?) → Children’s Liturgy: VIRTUE Mass → Faith Groups → Grandparents’ Day |

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| dreams about next year. | → Mommy & Me Makeover (Family Specific) → DIY with Daddy (Family Specific) → Kindergarten Recognition (Family Specific) → 8 th gr. Graduation → Come & See Day(Preschool thru 4 th gr.) → Last Day of School → Summer Activities |
|-------------------------|--|

ACTION:

- Confirm to meet at the Home & School mtg.
- Set a date to celebrate together the end of the school year.

FOLLOW-UP:

- **MENTOR:** Make note of questions or topic that you were not able to address during the session.
- **MENTOR:** Follow-up with administration with questions, concerns and/or overview of from meeting.

Services

- **After School Care Program**
 - The St. George After-School Care Program is for any St. George student on a regular, part-time or a drop-in basis.
 - Currently the cost is \$7 a day for one child or \$10 a day per family
 - See school website for additional information.
- **Arrival and Dismissal Procedures**
 - **Arrival:** Drive west up 4th street. Pull forward towards the stop sign. School personnel and/or a volunteer will assist your child(ren) out of the car.
 - Having the child(ren) ready to exit the car helps to keep the traffic flowing and make drop-off process quick and efficient.
 - **Dismissal:** Students have multiple options for after-school pick up:
 - *Bus Rider-* Students may ride the bus to the high school or elementary school Free of charge.-A charge is assessed if the child rides the bus to their house. Check with the school office for further information.
 - *St. George After School Care Program* (see explanation)
 - *Walker-* The 8th grade Safety Patrol Officers assist the younger students who walk down 4th street and cross at the corners of Market Street and 4th Street.
 - Car riders- Park in the parking lot.
 - Preschool and Pre-Kindergarteners are dismissed after the bus riders. Parents/guardians meet them at the corner in front of the Primary building.
 - Kindergarteners thru 7th grade will meet parents in front of church or at their vehicle.
 - On the rare occasion a parent is late picking-up their child the student may wait on the front steps outside the office until 3:10. After 3:10 the students are sent down to After School Care Program.
- **Individual Service Plan-**
 - A student who has severe delays in learning may qualify for a Individual Service Plan. This program is federally funded. If parents suspect their child has learning delays, then they should consultation the student's teacher.
- **Lunch Program-**
 - Students are given 3 lunch choices daily.
 - Each morning the student chooses their lunch in their homeroom.
 - If the child comes in late, the student will give their lunch choice to the School Secretary, who will then notify the cafeteria personnel.
 - Milk is served with all meals
 - If a student has a food allergy, a doctor's note must be provided to the school office, as well as the lunch director. The note will be kept in the students' medical file.

- The school lunch menu as well as student's lunch account balance is published monthly on the school's parent information website.
- The cost of student lunches is posted on the school's website.
- The school participates in the Federal Government's Free and Reduced Lunch Program. All families are encouraged to apply for the service. Participation in the program helps generate revenue for other federal program.
- **Mentor Family-**
 - Each new family will be paired with a veteran family upon admittance to help them adapt to the St. George life.
 - The families will meet monthly to discuss events, happenings and the adjustment of the new family to school life.
- **Parent Message System-**
 - The school utilizes a mass message system to send out emails, text messages, or voice messages. The school official sends out information and reminders about important events through this vehical. The standard alert times a message is sent out is 6 a.m. and/or 6 p.m.
- **Student Success Center-**
 - Provides additional academic, behavioral and executive function support to students, teachers, and parents.
 - Provides an environment in which students who learn differently are empowered to achieve and realize their potential.
- **Title 1 Services-**
 - A student who shows signs of a delay in learning reading and/or maybe referred for Title 1 services. Title 1 is a fererally funded program. A teacher employed by the federal government provides additional services in reading and/or math. This program is in addition to the direct instruction the student receives from their classroom teacher. A schedule is set so the student does miss out on key learning opportunities within the classroom.
- **Website Resources**
 - To further student learning the school's website has numerous links to educational websites suggested by their homeroom teachers.

School Traditions

- **Athletic Opportunities**

- ***St. George School:***

- Girls Volleyball for 5th grade thru 8th grade students
- Girls and Boys Basketball for 5th grade thru 8th grade students
- Community Soccer for Kindergarten thru 8th gr. boys and girls

- ***Community:***

- Soccer: Kindergarten thru 8th gr. (Fall)
- Football: Boys 4th grade thru 8th grade (Fall)
- Basketball: Co-ed Kindergarten thru 5th grade (Winter)
- T-ball/Baseball: Kindergarten thru 6th grade. (Spring)
- Dance: Prekindergarten thru high school

- **Buddy Program**

St. George Early Childhood Learning Center (ECLC) students will be assigned a “Buddy”. Currently Preschoolers and Pre-kindergarteners have buddies from the 7th grade; Kindergarteners have buddies from the 8th grade; First grade have buddies from the 6th grade.

- **8th gr. Cake Walk**

- Currently the event is held twice a year
- A child purchases a Very Important Pass (VIP) band or individual tickets for the event.
- Eighth grade parents supply bakery items and the students plan other games/activities for the event.
- All money raised helps pay for the 8th grade trip.

-

- **Christmas Giving Tree (Advent Service Project)**

- The purpose of the program is to collect items to be given to the poor within the local community.
- The 5th grade students organize the event by preparing tags (ornaments) with gift ideas. They place Christmas giving trees in the parish churches and at school and hang the ornaments on them.
- Parishioners and school families choose an ornament; purchase the gift listed on the tag and then return it and places it under the tree.
- Throughout Advent the 5th grade collect the gifts and organize them. At a designated date and time the 5th graders deliver the gifts to the Gasconade County School Social Worker who then distributes them to the those in the community who are in need.

- **Clean Up Hermann – Community Service**
 - This is a service event the school partners with other area churches and community organizations to clean up the community and help people who need projects done.
 - Projects sponsored in the past were: baking cookies for the shut-in; home-made thank you gifts for local businesses, police department, ambulance center and firefighters, clean-up of the St. George cemetery, clean-up of the Our Lady of Sorrows Shrine, yard work for local citizens, etc.

- **Grandparents Day**
 - An annual event.
 - All grandparents or special guest attends Mass and their grandchild sits with them. After Mass grandparent or special guest will be entertained at a concert performed by the student body. After the concert the guests will have an opportunity to visit the exhibits from the Education Fair.
 - Lunch is served at a minimal cost. Reservations and payment is made prior to the event.
 - If the parents give prior permission the child leaves with the grandparents or special guest after lunch.

- **Home & School Association**
 - The St. George Home and School Association provides an important service in bringing together parents, educators and staff members.
 - Parents who have a student enrolled at St. George are considered active members of the Home and School Association.
 - The Home and School Association is fundamentally an education organization whose purpose is to advance the Catholic education and welfare of all St. George students, promote parent-school activities, and increase interest in education and community.
 - The Home and School Association runs many successful events throughout the school year, which generate needed funds for the school operating budget. The funds that are raised are carefully allocated to best support the curriculum and the needs of the students and staff of St. George.
 - A parent attending the meeting will receive an OUT-OF-UNIFORM pass for their child to be used the next day or otherwise specified by the principal.

Fundraiser might include:

 - * **12 Trophies/Treasurers:** purchase a \$100 ticket and be entered into a monthly drawing to win a prize worth at least \$500. Name goes in back in when you win.
 - * **Monthly Fish Fry:** 1st Friday of 7 out of the 12 months Home & School hosts a fish fry. Different classes are assigned to work each month.

- * ***Mummy & Son and Daddy/Daughter Dance:*** These events are held, one in October and the other in March. Money raised at these events is given to the parish to offset the teachers' retirement fund.
 - * ***Christmas Bazaar:*** The event is held on the first Friday of December. Each family will be required to work at some part of the event. There is also an online auction associated with this event. Each class sponsors an experience and does a class project for the auction.
- **Kindergarten Tea**
 - A Kindergarten year end celebration!
 - The kindergarteners do the ministries at Mass and then a reception with a special performance is held in the gym for parents and other special guests.
- **Light the Night Concert**
 - This is a Family-Fun-Free Event that is open to the community. It is a night of food, games and Christian music.
 - The event usually takes place in the Fall (September or October)
- **Long Range Planning Committee**
 - An organization put into place to help with the cost of repairs to the facility, overall upkeep, marketing of the school and new equipment.

Major Fundraiser:

 - * ***Rolling on the River:*** The event is a dinner-auction-affle and usually takes place in August each year. The committee sells 200 \$100 tickets. The tickets is good for 2 dinners, drinks at an open bar, attendance prizes and a chance to win \$5,000.
 - * The night hosts a silent and live auction. As well as a "Wall of Fun" game board where the participants purchases chances to win prizes.
- **Prekindergarten Mommy Makeover**
 - Pre-kindergarten hosts a special day honoring their moms with a makeover and a massage. The day consists of Mass, makeover, massages, reception and special performance.
- **Preschool DYI Day with Dad**
 - Preschool hosts a day for dad. The day consists of a DYI project, reception and a special performance.
- **Sandwich Day**
 - A special person attends to have a sandwich lunch with their student while reading books.
 - The day may be paired with the holy obligation day of All Saints' Day.
 - The semi-annual Scholastic Book Fair is hosted on this day.

- **School Bank**

- The People's Savings Bank sponsors this unique service here on-site at the school and the 5th graders are the bank tellers.
- The school bank is an actual bank where students can make deposits. The deposit is credited to their savings bank at People's Savings Bank.
- Different incentives are given to the students when they make deposits.

- **Student Council**

- A student organization which plans various activities throughout the year.
- A panel of officers is made up of 7th & 8th graders and representatives are from the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade. Membership is held by students in the 3rd thru 8th grade. The difference between being a representative and member is a representative attends the monthly meetings, can serve as a chairperson or co-chairperson and has input on what events are sponsored. A member works on the committee planning the event and only attends meetings specifically for that event.

Student Council sponsored events:

- * ***First Friday Mass***
- * ***Assists with the Light the Night Concert***
- * ***Mission Week Activities***
- * ***Sponsors a family in need at Christmas***
- * ***Catholic School Week Activities***
- * ***Teacher Appreciation Week***
- * ***Ice Cream Social***
- * ***Hermann Community Event***
- * ***Movie Night***

Parent Information

- **Back-To-School Open House**

- Each year the school hosts a back-to-school open house prior to the first day of school.
- The night helps families meet their child's teacher, complete necessary paperwork, sign-up for committees, and reconnect with friends not seen over the summer.
- The Home & School Association hosts a dinner in conjunction with the night.

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- **Information Night Open House**

- Each year the school hosts grade specific open houses at the beginning of the school year.
- During the open house information is given to help the parents understand the daily schedule, expectations and guidelines of the student's homeroom teacher

as well as other teacher who have contact with your child throughout the school day.

- **Lunch with a student:**

- Parents or special guest are welcome to eat lunch with their child.
- A parent who wants to eat with their child contacts the school office the morning of the lunch date. They will place their lunch choice at this time.

- **New Family Dinner:**

- Each year at the beginning of school a New family dinner hosted.
- This dinner gives new families the opportunity to meet members of the faculty, school board and home & school association.
- During the dinner information is provided on the various organizations, families can ask questions and get to interact with other new families.

- **Out of Uniform**

- These are special passes or days given to students so they do not have to come in dress code that day.
- OOU passes are given as a birthday treat.
- Other days are to the discretion of the principal.

- **Recycle and Reuse**

- The Student Council sponsors the recycle initiative at school.
- There are various ways to recycle that will benefit the school.

Student Council recycles the following:

- * ***Best Choice UPC's,***
- * ***Tyson Project A+ labels,***
- * ***Box Tops for Education***
- * ***Aluminum Cans***
- * ***Clothing and Shoes***
- * ***Printer Cartridges***

- Some items are collected in the school office where as aluminum cans are to be placed in the trailer in the parking lot and clothing items are placed in the bin by the gym door.
- Gently used school uniforms are also collected and passed on to families who are in need of uniforms.

- **SCRIP Program**

- Is a fundraiser where all the money generated is used to offset the schools' operating budget.
- Through the SCRIP you purchase gift cards for a variety of businesses which then give a certain percentage back to the school in a cash rebate.
- SCRIP provides ½ of the rebate/profit the school receives and the other ½ given to your home parish in your family's name.
- SCRIP may be purchased weekly in person or forms, order it off of a form that is sent to school or by using SCRIP wallet from an app on your phone.

Catholic Mass, Traditions, Prayers and Other Things

MENTORS NEED TO BE ABLE TO CONVEY WITH CONVICTION THE CATHOLIC BELIEF IN THE TRUE PRESENCE OF THE EUCHARIST.

- **Mass (liturgy experience) for families with explanations.**

- Liturgy of the Eucharist are otherwise known as the Mass
- As one enters church their demeanor in Church should be one of reverence inviting quiet prayer.

Article Found in Church:

- * ***Sanctuary Light:*** indicates the presence of Jesus (Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Tabernacle.
- * ***Tabernacle:*** The place where the Holy Eucharistic is kept.
- * ***Holy Water Font:*** Holy water is kept here so you can bless yourself with Holy Water when entering or exiting church.
- * **Crucifix:** A cross with the body of Jesus upon it. Making the Sign of the Cross is encouraged by everyone. The prayer and motions are made in this fashion. *Prayer: In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.* The sign of the cross is recreated by using the right hand to touch the forehead, the chest, the left shoulder and the right shoulder.
- * **Pew:** A place where you sit. Before entering or upon exiting the a person will genuflect on their right knee.
- During the Mass on a weekday, the prayer can be located in the Missalette in the pew.
- The hymns are announced and also posted on the placard at the front of church, usually located behind Monsignor's chair.

There are 3 hymnals:

- * WC indicates the hymn is from the We Celebrate Hymnal.
- * G indicates hymn from the Gather Hymnal.
- * NTY or N indicates the Hymnal that might be out in a portable unit prior to Mass.
- The participant will kneel, sit or stand at various points in the Mass. Kneeling/sitting/standing is indicated in the missalette.
 - * ***Kneeling*** is the demeanor during the Consecration of the Mass. This is the holiest part of the Mass and is reminiscent of the Last Supper and the institution of the Eucharist. During this time, the bread and wine are transubstantiated into the Real presence: Body and Blood Soul and Divinity of Jesus.
 - * ***Standing*** during the Gathering song, Opening Prayer, Petitions, Our Father and after communion.
 - * ***Sitting*** is done during the Liturgy of the Word, Homily, Offertory and after communion. Non-Catholics may sit during when Catholics are kneeling.

- The Sign of Peace. Extend a hand shake and a peace greeting to those who are within reach, a quiet gesture of peace to those you might want to acknowledge.
 - At the Ministry of the Eucharist (Communion) a non-Catholic may go forward with arms crossed over their chest for a blessing by Monsignor or the Eucharistic Minister.
- **Other Traditions and Rituals:**
 - **Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction** occurs on the First Friday of each month.
 - * Adoration begins after morning Mass and continues until Benediction at 2:30 PM.
 - * Throughout the day the Blessed Sacrament is placed on the alter in a Monstrance. A Monstrance is a sacred vessel that displays the Consecrated Host (The Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity there within)
 - * Parishioners and school children will visit church throughout the day to pray.
 - **Stations of the Cross** occur during the season of Lent.
 - * The pictures hung along the outside of walls depict the passion of Christ.
 - * During the Lenten season the children will say special prayers that reflect upon all the Jesus went through before being crucified on the cross.
 - **Reconciliation** happens twice a year during Lent and Advent.
 - * Is a time set aside that Catholics visit a priest to confess their sins.
 - * The children who have made their 1st Reconciliation are given this opportunity during the school day.
 - * Non-Catholics may receive a special blessing if they were to visit with priest during this time.
 - **Sacramental Preparation:** Catholic receives special sacraments to help to form and increase their faith life.
 - * 2nd graders will receive two sacraments their second grade year: First Reconciliation and First Eucharist
 - * Beginning in the year 2020-2021 the 7th grade students will receive the sacrament of Confirmation
 - * Non-Catholic students who will be preparing for these sacraments will be included in the Sacramental Receptions, but without actual reception of the Sacrament.