

CATHOLIC YOUTH FORMATION

St. Charles Borromeo Parish
5571 S. Marilyn Street
Milwaukee, WI 53221

Rev. Carmelo J. Giuffre, Pastor

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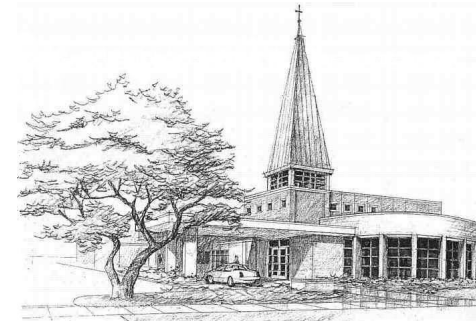
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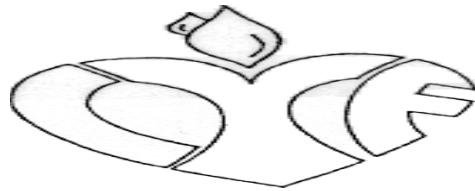
St. Charles Borromeo Parish Milwaukee, WI



Dedicated to Faith, Family and Future

**Catholic Youth Formation
Family Handbook
2015-2016**

We've got the Spirit...



Youth Ministry

This ministry will provide opportunities for high school age youth to socialize, serve and grow spiritually in their faith.

- Youth Service Trip
- Youth Room renovations ~ Ongoing
- Various social & spiritual activities

Please contact KC Krancih with any questions or ideas at 281-8115 ext 26.

Young Adult Ministry

This ministry will provide opportunities for young adults from ages 19—35 to socialize, serve and gain spiritual guidance. We will bring in speakers that can relate to issues affecting young adults in today's society, create groups where young adults can meet and explore their faith and provide opportunities for young adults to serve others in our community.

- Theology on Tap
- Brewing the Faith

Please contact KC Kranich with any questions or ideas at 281-8115 ext 26

LOOK FOR US ON FACEBOOK!

Confirmation Grade 11

All high school students in 11th grade, both private and public school students, join the program as they anticipate Confirmation.

The students in the confirmation program will build upon their knowledge of sacraments and the creed. Focusing on the action of the Holy Spirit, students will be challenged to recognize God’s presence in their lives-especially when it comes to making sound moral decisions and seeking social justice.

Besides the classroom experience, Confirmation students will participate in service projects, a retreat, prayer services, and experience special guest speakers. All of this culminates in their decision to receive the sacrament of Confirmation-the initiation, or beginning, of adult commitment to continue their faith journey.

IMPORTANT!! Please understand that the Sacrament of Confirmation is a THREE-YEAR preparation process. Just as with all other sacraments, teens must be enrolled in 9th & 10th grade CYF or Catholic High School in order to continue and be Confirmed as a Junior. Any questions can be directed to KC Kranich at 281-8115 x26

Classes:
2nd & 4th Mondays; 7:00 ~ 8:30 p.m.

Various Confirmation Special Dates and Outreach Projects are planned throughout the year. Some may include the following:

- Parent/Student Meeting
- Retreat
- Various Service Projects
- Parish Mission
- Confirmation Acceptance Mass
- Confirmand/Sponsor Classes
- Confirmation Rehearsal and Mass

Contact KC Kranich for more information or see the website for schedules

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Fall 2015

Dear CYF families:

There was an interesting show on national radio recently about what constitutes the greatest threat in the Catholic Church today. A few people called in to offer their thoughts:

- Lack of belief in the Eucharist
- Apathy among the Catholic laity
- Rampant moral relativism

To be honest, I predicted that they were going to suggest these opinions and other as well because I've been hearing about it for years. Then the radio host offered an interesting point of view that is actually the root cause of all those threats: that Catholics today are "dying" because they are not "knowing" God in ways that engages their mind and heart. How true!

"My people perish for want of knowledge!" God spoke these words to the prophet Hosea 500 years before Jesus' birth because people lacked an intimate communion with the Lord—Father, Son and Holy Spirit—and were in danger of losing their way in the journey of life.

Our Catholic Youth Formation (CYF) is a unique, family-oriented program that is seriously committed in providing our young and not-so-young with the knowledge they need to develop a dynamic and fruitful faith that wants to share itself with others. This year's theme: *"Dedicated to Faith, Family and Future"* is a program that will "equip" our believers to the unity of faith and knowledge of the Son of God so as to grow in every way into Him.

We welcome you to another year of Christian Formation. You will find that the hope of our leaders in parish faith formation: Cathy Krol, KC Kranich, and Deb Barchus is not for you and your children to perish "...for want of knowledge," but to "live the truth in love," and act that leaven in our culture. As your pastor, I am here to assist in this endeavor in any way possible. May the grace and peace of Christ be with you always!

In God's Time,

Fr Carmelo

Youth & Young Adult Ministries

Senior High School Program Grades 9 & 10

In the freshman and sophomore years, your students will strive to develop a stronger faith and grow in their understanding of Christ's mission in our world. They will also grow to appreciate and respond to their own role in making His message come alive. These years of formation are required and lead to preparation for Confirmation when students are 16 or in the 11th grade.

Classes:

The 9th & 10th Grade classes meet twice per month on the 1st & 3rd Monday in the school Library from 5:45 ~ 7:00 p.m.
See schedule for dates.

Group Activities:

Students will participate in activities beyond the classroom setting including:

- Reconciliation in Lent
- Prayer Services
- Social Opportunities
- Youth group activities (Bon Fire)
- Service Mondays
- Ministry Apprenticeships
- 9th/10th Grade day Retreat
- Wisconsin Catholic Youth Rally
- Parent/Student Speakers

Fall, 2010

Dear Families:

We want to especially welcome Father Carmelo to our Parish as our 6th Pastor for our community. He comes to us with great joy to lead us closer to Jesus. He is filled with the Fruits of the Spirit. Fr. Carmelo will be instructing in our classes throughout the year, focusing on Eucharistic Adoration and teaching our students the importance and sacredness of the experience of praying before the Blessed Sacrament.

Our theme this year is "We've Got The Spirit... Celebrating the Fruits of the Spirit..." Together with the SCB school students and faculty, we will share this year's theme in ways of prayer, outreach, and activities. Each month we will explore ways we can celebrate the fruits of the Spirit.

For the beginning of our Program year, we will celebrate the fruit of *Faithfulness*. How fitting to start our year with Faithfulness. You and your children are here because you are faithful -- faithful to your programs, faithful to SCB, and faithful to our God who has, through His Holy Spirit, filled you with every grace and blessing. So as you ponder how you can become more faithful...instill in your children the importance of coming to Mass faithfully every week, pray as a family faithfully, help those that are less fortunate than you, and faithfully attend class each week and have your children do any homework sent home. Faithfully check our website for updates and the Family handbook that is now on the website.

With our dedicated catechists, pastoral staff and Fr. Carmelo, we will help guide your children in their faith development. Each grade level follows the Grade Specific Curriculum/ Sacramental Guidelines set forth by the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. In addition, we will provide experiential activities through prayer and service learning -- all of this leading our students to a closer and more sacred relationship with Jesus Christ and one another.

We invite you to become involved in our programs in order that you too will share in the joy of sharing your faith with the children and youth of our community.

May the Fruits of the Spirit enrich your CYF year.



Cathy Krol
Director Christian
Formation



Deb Barchus
Early Childhood
Ministries



KC Kranich
Youth & Young Adult Ministries

RCIC

Rite of Christian Initiation for Children Sessions meet Sundays, October through Easter

This program has been established for children of catechetical age that have never been catechized preparing them for full sacramental initiation. We will explore the meaning of symbols and ritual gestures with children to encourage their prayer life, and help them connect between scripture and daily life. If you are interested in assisting in this program contact Cathy Krol at the Parish office 281-8115 x24

Religious Education and Sacrament Preparation (Reconciliation, Eucharist & Confirmation)

Role of Parents

While the catechesis offered within the family is ordinarily informal, unstructured, and spontaneous, it is no less crucial for the development of the child's faith... Parents are catechists precisely because they are parents.

Formation for Children

School-age children should receive formal and systematic catechesis in a parish-based catechetical program, a Catholic school, or a program of home-based catechesis in which the content of the faith and the experience of Christian life is presented authentically and completely.

National Directory for Catechesis 203-4

The above information is taken from the National Directory for Catechesis and can be found on the archmil.org website under the John Paul II Center - Catechesis and Youth Ministry Religious Education. We provide this information in our CYF Family Handbook here at St. Charles Borromeo. As a parish community we follow the above guidelines for catechism of our children. With support of our parish Christian Formation Commission and our Pastor we apply further that parents requesting sacrament preparation for their children for Reconciliation, Eucharist or Confirmation must have their children participate in one year of formation prior to immediate sacrament preparation. The Archdiocese of Milwaukee Sacramental Guidelines states:

"Children commonly participate in a sacramental preparation program for at least one year prior to...immediate preparation. This on-going catechesis...forms the foundation for the immediate catechesis for (the sacraments)."

Copy of Baptismal Certificate is required for all sacrament preparation registrations.

If you have questions about the following guidelines please contact Cathy Krol or KC Kranich at the parish office.

Parish Sacrament Program

First Reconciliation and First Eucharist

“Gifts for a Lifetime”

A Parish based sacrament program centered on teaching children and families and the community that God is a generous gift-giver. Parents are their child’s primary catechist. Our programs will engage parents in the role of catechist and enrich the sacramental experience for the child, family and Parish community.

First Reconciliation Sacrament Preparation/Reception See Schedule for Dates

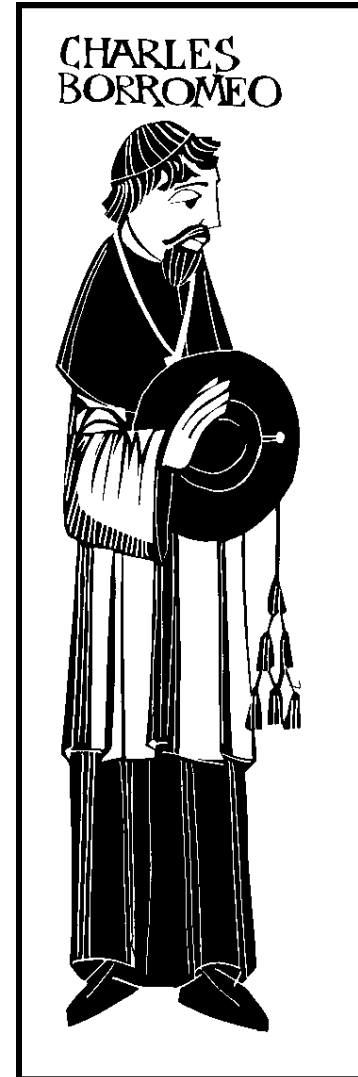
First Reconciliation Parent Mtg.(parents only)
Commitment Sunday
First Reconciliation Afternoon of Reflection
Celebration of First Reconciliation

First Eucharist Sacrament Preparation/Reception See Schedule for Dates

First Eucharist Parent Mtg.(parents only)
Commitment Sunday
First Eucharist Afternoon of Reflection
Rehearsal for First Eucharist
First Eucharist Liturgy ~ 12:00 noon Mass

Students in both the day school and Religious Education Classes are to register. This includes all second graders and any student in the upper grades that has not previously prepared for Reconciliation or Eucharist.

St Charles Borromeo Parish Catholic Youth Formation Mission Statement



Our parish patron ~ St. Charles Borromeo ~ was instrumental in developing the first comprehensive CCD (Confraternity of Christian Doctrine) program following the Protestant Reformation in the 16th century. Because of his work in this area, he is the recognized patron saint of catechists. It is in the spirit of St. Charles’ enthusiasm to lovingly spread the faith that we continue to teach the good news of Catholicism.

As a child is initiated into the Catholic-Christian community at Baptism, the parish family promises to support the parents as the child’s first and best teachers of our faith and values. The Catholic Youth Formation (CYF) program at St. Charles is designed to assist in this vital role.

Christ-centered classes, community-building experiences, and service-learning opportunities support the parents’ role in fostering knowledge of doctrine and scripture, involvement in prayer and ministry, commitment to social justice, and the development of strong moral values.

Policies and General Information

Catholic Youth Formation (CYF)

The term “Catholic Youth Formation” (CYF) has been adopted at St. Charles to replace the more traditionally established “Confraternity of Christian Doctrine” (CCD) as the title of our religious education program for grades 1—11.

“Catholic Youth Formation” more appropriately defines the focus of the religious education programs for today. The goal of CYF is to help develop educated faith-seekers, who are both aware of-and actively involved in their faith.

Education Commission

The needs, concerns and issues pertaining to the CYF programs are represented at St. Charles’ Christian Formation Commission meetings, held bi-monthly in the Church.

During the meetings, the Commission, which is comprised of voluntary participants, gathers to review the progress of the various educational opportunities available to our parish population. If you have any questions or comments for the Commission, or wish to join, please contact the parish office for instructions.

Weather Emergencies

Weekday Religious Education classes will be canceled on days when snow prevents attendance at the public schools, or when students are sent home early due to snow. We use the Milwaukee Public School District for closing guidelines.

Please turn to WTMJ (Channel 4), Fox 6 or WISN (Channel 12) on your television for CYF cancellations during inclement weather.

Arrival and Dismissal

Since children and traffic can become a dangerous combination, and because the parking lot will not be supervised, please drop off your children 10 minutes prior to the start of class, no earlier.

♦ Drop off:

As you arrive on the parking lot watch for children waiting between cars. Enter through the driveway closest to the school/church. Drop off your child in front of the parish hall entrance. Exit through the driveway closest to the convent. There will be cones placed for you to follow.

Catholic Youth Formation Classes Elementary Grades K5~5

“We Believe”, by Sadlier, provides a meaningful and effective faith formation program for our elementary age children that engages their energy, imagination, compassion and playful spirit. With help and guidance from our parents, children begin to appreciate the power of faith helping them make good choices, extend themselves in our Parish, community and beyond. Exploring the Old and New Testament they begin to apply these messages to their lives. We join together for prayer, celebrate the saints, share our hearts and treasures with others while preparing for Advent and Lent, learn about vocations, pray the stations of the cross, and celebrate the sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist. Our trained catechists lead our children to a deeper understanding of God’s love enabling and encouraging them to participate in classroom prayer leadership, and the importance of Sunday’s community celebration of the Eucharist.

Junior High Class Schedule Grades 7 & 8

Students at the junior high school level examine their roles as Christian witnesses on a faith journey through a study of scripture, history, morality and Church teachings.

Classes:

Both 7th & 8th Grades meet on Monday in the school classrooms from 5:45 ~ 7:00 p.m.
See schedule for dates.

CYF Schedule ~ Grades K5~8
Classes meet Monday 5:45 ~ 7:00 p.m. in the School
Contact Christian Formation Office for Schedule
Or
See our Parish Website
www.scbmil.org

Early Childhood Ministries

Children's Liturgy of the Word Every Sunday during the 10:30 a.m. Liturgy September ~ May All children K5 - 3 grade are welcome!

We are excited to again present this Fall Children's Liturgy of the Word. A celebration of the "Good News" for children. Together with adult leaders children have the opportunity to join in the readings, participate in the responses, proclaim the Gospel, and listen to a reflection all in their own terms. No Registration is required. If you attend this mass please encourage your child to join our session. ~ No fee!

◆ **Pick up:**

Park your car facing the convent, beginning with the first set of double parking spaces. Parents with students in Grades K5-3 must come into the building to pick-up your student. Catechists and students will be waiting in the hall for parents to pick-up their child. No child will be released to an older sibling. Parents with students in Grades 4-11 may stay in your cars and wait for your student to come to you.

Do not establish a car pool line at pickup. This creates a potentially dangerous situation for students and families.

◆ **Sr. High Students:**

If your student drives their own car to class, remind them to use caution as there will be young children on the premises, as well as other events taking place during CYF classes. Students who use reckless driving judgment will not be permitted to park on the lot.

Please do not park your cars adjacent to the school building.

Thank you for your cooperation as we strive to maintain the safety of all our parishioners.

Attendance and Tardiness

Once students are registered, parents are asked to send them regularly, unless illness or some other factor claims reasonable priority. For the safety of your student, parents are asked to call the Religious Education office at 282-0663 if a student is going to be absent. If you do not call, you may receive a courtesy phone call at your home to insure student safety.

Arriving late to class causes unnecessary difficulties for both teachers and fellow students. Parents are asked to ensure that their children will be on time for all scheduled activities.

Discipline & Guidelines

Students are expected and required to conduct themselves in a Christian manner at all times.

Inappropriate language and/or behavior is prohibited.

- No racial, ethnic, or gender slurs
- No cursing-especially taking the Lord's name in vain
- No possessing or using cigarettes, alcohol, or drugs
- No rude or disruptive behavior in class
- If on break, do not interrupt other classes

Continued on next page

Discipline & Guidelines (continued))

- Do not vandalize the school facilities
- Do not go into the day school students' desk
- Do not write or draw on the chalk boards
- The possession of ANY weapons or threats of bodily harm toward others will not be tolerated

Once you are in the building, there is no going back outside.

- St Charles is responsible for you while you are here: NO ONE IS TO GO OUTSIDE UNTIL CLASS HAS BEEN DISMISSED!

This is your class—please participate!

- Please show others respect—just as you'd expect it yourself
- Do not be quick to judge others, or to put down their opinions
- Please do not bring electronic devices to CYF. This includes phones , game systems, ipods, etc...

Dress code

- Please remove jackets when you are in the classrooms
- The wearing of hats or bandanas is prohibited once students are inside the building
- Please do not wear offensive T-shirts (this may include anti-Christian messages, images of death or violence, or negative words).

If a student repeatedly disrupts class, engages in offensive behavior (i.e.: vandalism, smoking, possessing alcohol or drugs) and/or uses abusive or obscene language, parents will be called immediately for consultation.

In case of continued difficulty, the student will be removed from his/her particular program. NO FEES WILL BE REFUNDED.

Special Situations

Occasionally a student is behind sacramentally. We will do everything possible to help each child get "caught up" and prepare for sacraments. This will require extra help from the parents, catechists, and assessments will be made as the need arises.

Above All!

Please work with your children and encourage them by asking about their lessons, answering their questions, and setting time aside for family prayer and discussion. Your children will see by your example, the importance of their faith and Christian education.

Homework is a chance for the student to refocus their learning outside the classroom setting, applying what has been learned and/or prepare for the new lessons. Homework will be given judiciously, at the discretion of the Catechist and will be appropriate for the age level of the child. It is expected, if homework is assigned, that such work will be completed to the best of each student's ability and handed in when requested.

Attend mass each Sunday; discuss the mass with your children to better their understanding. Encouraging them to participate in songs, prayers, and responses will help enrich their experience. Never be afraid to say "I don't know." Ask a priest or a catechist if you can't answer your child's question!

Encourage your children to take an active role in the life of St. Charles. There are several areas in which your children and especially your teenagers can serve the community: Servers, Choir, Lectors, Hospitality Ministers, commission members, or classroom aides, etc.

Supplies for Grades 1& 2

2 pocket folders
Pencil(s)
Box of crayons or markers
Scissors
Glue Stick
Ream of Paper

Supplies for Grades 3—6

2 pocket folders
1 spiral notebook
Pencil/pen
Box of markers or colored pencils
Scissors
Glue Stick
Grade 6—Catholic Youth Bible
Ream of Paper

Supplies for Grades 7-10

1 pocket folder
1 spiral notebook
Pencil/pen
Catholic Youth Bible
Ream of Paper

- Please put your name on your supplies
- For our elementary level students please bring your supplies in a backpack or schoolbag
- From time to time we may ask for a specific item when working on individual classroom projects

4. Students unable to participate in sports/extracurricular activities because of low academic/behavior marks will have their participation reviewed at the time of mid quarter progress reports. Any reinstatement of participation will be probationary and may be suspended if the student's progress is not maintained.
5. At any given time a child may be placed on probation. A warning is given to the student and parent. If no improvement is made in a given time, a child may be suspended from the activity.
 - Spectators are requested to support team athletics and individual players with positive encouragement.
 - Any derogatory remarks, actions or gestures directed toward a player, coach, referee, spectator or other parents is unacceptable.
 - Coaches and the referee have the authority to remove from the premises any individual that violates these guidelines.
 - Violations may result in suspension of future attendance.
6. If school is closed due to inclement weather all after school activities are cancelled.
7. Students must be in attendance all day to participate in after school sport practice or activities.

Family Nite

Annually we celebrate Family Nite and all there is about CYF. Families are invited to participate in this event and social. More details will be sent home through your student.

Grapevine~Bulletin~Website

The following are your best sources for information regarding upcoming events, schedules and Parish news: The Grapevine Newsletter, Bulletin and Website at www.scbmil.org link on Parish.

Expectations

So that our programs are as successful as possible we need your cooperation and support as parents/guardians. We are asking that you make a commitment to support us in the following ways.

- Participate fully in the sacramental life of the Parish!
Attend Mass weekly, attend special devotional services. Children learn a great deal by attending Mass on a regular basis and by witnessing and practicing your faith.
- Help your children be prompt and prepared for class!
Our class sessions are an hour and fifteen minutes long. You can see every moment counts. Losing time at the beginning of classes deters from accomplishing what is planned.
- Continue to bring your children!
As in any curriculum, one year builds on the next, so full participation through the grades and sacrament preparation is necessary to receive a full religious education.
- Consider continuing your own faith development!
Join a Small Faith Sharing Group, or attend the Soup-er Saint sessions, volunteer as a catechist or catechist aide. Watch the Grapevine and Bulletin for other opportunities to increase your faith development.
- Pray together as a family!
Use the resources sent home through the "Partners In Faith", "Seasonal Specials" or Parenting Magazine as these tools provide wonderful ways to pray as a family.
- Volunteer to help!
With the consistent growth in our programs more and more volunteers are needed to create meaningful classes and experiences for our students.
- Support Your Parish Community!
Our Parish community supports our programs financially. We need every family to support us as well with their time, talent and treasure. Please prayerfully consider sharing your skills and interests with us by completing our Volunteer Search Form. Return it to the CYF office by the first class date. Our programs are enriched by your help and support.

Children with Special Needs

Currently St. Charles Borromeo does not have a Religious Education program specifically for children with special needs. However, whenever possible and with input from a child's parents a child with special needs will be placed in our R.E. classes.

In situations where mainstreaming would not be possible, special arrangements may be made through the Director of a specific program.

Protecting All of God's Family (VIRTUS)

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Charter for the Protection of Children and Youth has asked that we implement awareness sessions for abuse prevention with the children and youth in our Catholic Youth Formation catechetical and school programs. The problem of child sexual abuse is a prominent concern of the Catholic Church. At this critical time in the Church, we are presented with the opportunity to educate our children and ourselves in order to prevent future incidents of abuse.

In the effort to keep all of our children and youth safe, awareness sessions are planned annually to address this issue.

All adult volunteers in our Parish programs are required to participate in a Safe Environment awareness session, background check, read and sign off on the Code of Ethical Standards and complete a Volunteer profile in order to volunteer with children.

WELFARE, HEALTH AND SAFETY

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

According to Wisconsin State Law, Section 48.981, Statutes, any pastoral or school administrator, teacher, counselor or related professional who has reasonable cause (that set of facts which would cause a reasonably prudent person to conclude that abuse or neglect will occur or has occurred) to suspect child abuse or neglect or has reason to believe that a child has been threatened with abuse or neglect and that the abuse or neglect will occur, is obligated to report the case immediately (as soon as possible, but not more than 24 hours), by telephone or personal visit, to the local County Child Welfare Agency, the office of the County Sheriff or the City Police Department.

The term abuse includes physical injury, sexual or emotional abuse. The Archdiocesan policy will be followed if such a case occurs.

FIRE/TORNADO DRILLS

Fire drills are held under the supervision of the Director of Christian Formation.

During the drill, all students are expected to observe silence and file out quickly and orderly to assigned areas. Specific fire drill directions are explained by the catechists at the beginning of each program year.

Tornado drills are conducted under the supervision of the Director of Christian Formation.

Extracurricular Activities

Full participation in the life of our Parish is highly recommended. Activities such as altar servers, sports, cheerleading, scouts are available by contacting the CYF office or during orientation sessions. All eligibility requirements for participation in these parish activities/ programs are identical to those for parish school children.

EXTRA CURRICULAR/SPORTS ACTIVITIES Grades 5-8

The Archdiocesan policies are followed in the regulation of extracurricular and sports activities in the school and parish. The Pastor is chiefly responsible for promoting these policies and those policies of St. Charles Borromeo School / Christian Formation Commission. Certain responsibilities/duties may be delegated to the Athletic Association.

In an effort to uphold the Code of Christian Conduct and the High academic standards of the school, the Principal or Director of Christian Formation may reserve the right of privilege for a child to participate in extra-curricular/sports activities. The following criteria are followed:

1. In order to promote good sportsmanship and display Christian attitudes in public, a child must first maintain an average grade in behavior.
2. In order to participate in sports/extra-curricular activities, a child must maintain a "C" average in effort and academics in all academic areas. (2 D's or 2 U's will also make a child ineligible to participate in extra curricular activities.) The Principal or Director of Christian Formation may make case by case exceptions to this.
3. Fourth quarter report cards will be considered for eligibility in activities beginning at the start of the school/program year.