



Dear Parents of Faith Formation Students,

August 16, 2023

I hope you and your children are well. Our volunteer catechists and staff are happy to assist with the spiritual formation of your children and we appreciate your help as we begin this new year. We have planned a year for growing in that living relationship with God as a family of disciples in Jesus Christ and his Catholic Church, which began at our Baptism.

Our Faith Formation Mission Statement is: ***To teach Christ and be Christ to others.*** It flows from the Lord Jesus Christ who is our first and perfect teacher in the ways of God. God's saving grace and truth flow to us through Christ by virtue of our baptismal commitment to daily prayer, weekly worship, study of the faith, inviting others into the faith journey (evangelization) and faithful service.

To start the year, we invite parents to participate in the first 30 minutes of your student's first class on Wednesday, September 13. We will have prayer, introductions of the catechists and Faith Formation Assistant, Maria Schultz, review the upcoming year, address any questions, and close with prayer. Then the students will go to their class for the remainder of the class time.

Enclosed are registration forms, calendar and consent forms for this year. We hope to receive your completed forms (both sides) no later than **Monday, August 28, 2023 by 12Noon.** One sheet gives us permission to contact students directly through the media. We will copy parents when we do so. The other side of the form gives us permission to use any pictures, visual likeness, and original works of minors in parish bulletin, newspaper, etc. No address or phone numbers will be published.

Any free will offering is appreciated, with checks made payable to Holy Trinity Parish. For registered parishioners \$35 per student is suggested, or a \$100 family maximum. For those not registered as parishioners, a mandatory registration fee of \$50 per child.

Please send your completed forms and free will offering through the mail, in the collection basket at Mass (clearly marked in a separate envelope), or drop it off at the Holy Trinity Parish Office during office hours: Mondays, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Forms can also be dropped off in the grey drop box at the east entrance of Holy Trinity by **Monday, August 28.** You can also email the signed registration forms to holytrinitygoodhue@gmail.com

Please recall that students preparing for First Communion or Confirmation must complete two full years of Faith Formation with our faith community and **regularly attend Sunday Mass** before receiving these sacraments. This year Catholic students in 9-12 grades will be invited to be confirmed but must attend Holy Mass every weekend (when possible) in order to fulfill God's 3rd Commandment: Re-member to keep holy the Sabbath, and meet required deadlines with regard to Confirmation sponsor forms, service hours form and chosen saint's name and a short saint biography.

Your child's spiritual and physical safety is our first priority. Therefore, the Archdiocese of St. Paul/Minneapolis is required to provide all students with "Personal Safety" training. That training date will be at Holy Trinity Church on Wed., Nov. 8, for all grades at their normal class time. Parents are welcome to attend this with their child(ren) if they wish.

Please contact the parish office (holytrinitygoodhue@gmail.com) when your student will be absent from class ASAP. If you forget, the parish office will contact you out of concern for your child's safety when they are absent without prior notification.

Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. Thomas McCabe
Pastor, Holy Trinity Parish

Maria Schultz
Administrative/Faith Formation Assistant

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