

Religious Education Classes

Welcome

We welcome your children to participate in the parish Religious Education program! We strive to offer a quality religious education program that provides faith formation for your children as well as the opportunity to pray together and form community with other members of our parish. Assistance is offered for students with special needs.

Goal

The mission of the St. Francis of Assisi Parish Religious Education program is to extend Jesus' invitation to discipleship and to provide students with age-appropriate catechesis guided by biblical faith, the teachings of the Church, and a clear vision of the Gospel. This is accomplished by building upon students' life experiences, fostering family involvement, developing spirituality and involvement in liturgical prayer, encouraging moral development, and challenging students to experience faith in a spirit of joy.

We Support You - the Domestic Church

While goals are important, they become meaningless without our working together. Parents' involvement at home, teaching and living the faith, supports and reinforces what we are teaching in class. The Catechism of the Catholic Church states that "the role of parents in education is of such importance that it is almost impossible to provide an adequate substitute," and further..."the right and duty of parents to educate their children are primordial and inalienable."

Religious Education classes are offered for grades K-6 on Wednesday evenings with two sessions to choose from: 4:30 – 5:45 pm and 6:15 – 7:30 pm. Classes meet from September through April.

Curriculum

Kindergarten – Grade 5

The students in grades K-5 use the *Finding God* series published by Loyola Press. The title, "Finding God: Our Response to God's Gifts", reflects the inspiration of St. Ignatius of Loyola and is designed to help students recognize the presence of God in their lives and to know God in a personal way. The series weaves together experiences in prayer, scripture, Catholic social teaching and liturgy. The themes of the children's program are: God, Jesus, The Church, The Sacraments and Morality. These themes are incorporated in each grade level.

GRADE 6

As this age transitions into middle school, the curriculum is designed to foster small group discussion. The students in grade 6 use the St. Mary's Press series, *Discovering*. This series is designed to address our pre-teen's real-life issues and help connect their lives with their Catholic faith. We will use the following mini courses: Exploring the Story of Israel and Celebrating the Eucharist.

Thank you for registering with the Religious Education program at St. Francis of Assisi. Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns. See you in September!

Christen R. Cota, Director of Religious Education

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