

Right to Amend

This handbook is primarily a means of communication. It is meant to provide parents and guardians with helpful information on how the religious formation classes are executed. Our Lady of the Springs Religious Formation Program reserves the right to amend this handbook as necessary. Parents and guardians will be notified in writing if changes are made to any procedures or information contained in this handbook.

**PLEASE CUT ON THE DOTTED LINE,
SIGN THE FORM BELOW, AND RETURN IT TO YOUR
CHILD'S TEACHER AT THE FIRST CLASS.**

I have received Our Lady of the Springs' Religious Formation Handbook. I understand that it is my responsibility to read and familiarize myself with the policies of the Religious Education Program.

Student's Name:

Parent/Guardian's Name:

Please Print

Signature of Parent/Guardian:

_____ Date _____

Faith Formation

Handbook

Our Lady of the Springs
Church

Grades K – 8

Confirmation

Youth Ministry

Dear Parents,

Faith formation begins in your home. Your example in attending Mass, praying and living a Christian life teaches your children that God is an important part of their lives.

During your family meals, ask your children what they learned in class and help them learn the required prayers.

Please read the Faith Formation schedule carefully. It includes Grades K-9 on Sundays from 9:30 AM to 10:45 AM, Youth Group, and special events.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 236-2230.

Sincerely,

Rita M. Bostwick
DRE/Youth Minister

Faith Formation Schedule K-9 2006-2007

- Sept** 9 **Class** & Grandparents' Day Breakfast-Sponsored by YG
16 **Class** & Family Mass
23 **Class** & **Youth Group-12:30 PM-2:30**
30 **Class**
- Oct** 7 **Class** & **Youth Group - 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM**
10 **First Communion Parent Meeting-7:00-8:00 PM Ed. Bldg.**
14 **Class**
17 **Confirmation Parent Meeting-7:00-8:00 PM Ed. Bldg**
21 **Class** & **Family Mass** & **Youth Group-8:00AM-2:30 PM**
27 **Class** — Junior High Youth Rally Gr. 6, 7, 8, — Blessed Trinity Church 9:00AM-5:00 PM \$5.00
28 **Class**
31 All Saints' Party -Dress as a Saint for 6:00 PM Mass, Party after Mass — Parish Hall — Sponsored by the Youth Group
- Nov** 4 **Class** & **Youth Group 12:30 AM - 2:30 PM**
11 **Class**
18 **Class** & **Family Mass** & **Youth Group-8:00AM- 2:30 PM**
25 Thanksgiving - NO CLASS
- Dec** 2 **Class** & **Youth Group -12:30 AM-2:30 PM**
9 **Class**
16 **Class** & **Family Mass** & **Youth Group -8:00 AM-2:30 PM**

4. Communicate regularly with and involve parents in the faith development of their children.

5. Be fingerprinted and pass a background check.

Volunteers

Parent and volunteer participation is welcomed and needed in various areas of the religious education program. Anyone interested in volunteer service should contact Rita Bostwick at 236-2230.

Discipline and Problem Solutions

All students are expected to share in the faith learning experiences of the parish program. If a student's behavior disrupts the learning process, the following steps will be followed to ensure that the faith learning experience will be restored.

1. At the first incident, the student will be reminded of the proper classroom behavior and the consequences of misbehavior.

2. After the second incident, the student will be sent to the Director of Religious Education for a discussion about proper classroom behavior.

3. If inappropriate behavior continues, the student will be removed from the classroom to do his religious education assignment in a different classroom. The parents or guardian will be contacted to discuss a way to resolve the disruptive behavior.

EXPECTATIONS

Parent(s)/Guardian

1. Ensure that your child will attend Mass every Sunday. Attend the Family Mass every month.
2. Ensure that your child will attend religious education classes regularly and on time.
3. Be an active part in your child's faith formation journey.
4. Continue to enrich your spiritual life by attending RCIA on Tuesdays 7:00-8:30 PM, or Bible Study and Adult Formation classes on Thursdays from 1:30 – 3:00PM or 7:00 – 8:30PM.

Students

1. Show respect, behave in a Christian manner at all times and be cooperative with adults and other students.
2. Actively participate in classroom activities and discussions.
3. Attend class regularly and complete any assignments or homework.

Catechist

1. Be a Christian role model.
2. Prepare for each class, faithfully by praying, reading spiritual books, and studying the curriculum.
3. Provide a loving, Christian atmosphere within the classroom so those students will be able to grow in their faith.

Dec	23 Christmas - NO CLASS 30 NO CLASS
Jan	2 First Penance Class with Parents 6:00 PM—7:00 PM 6 Class & Youth Group -12:30 AM-2:30 PM 9 First Penance Class with Parents 6:00 PM– 7:30 PM 13 Class 16 First Penance Class with Parents 6:00 PM– 7:30 PM 20 Class & Family Mass & Youth Group-8:00 AM-2:30 PM 22 Youth Group Trip to March for Life, Washington, DC 23 First Penance Class with Parents 6:00 PM– 7:30 PM 27 Class 30 Sacrament of First Penance
Feb	3 Class & Youth Group -12:30 AM-2:30 PM 10 Class 17 Class & Family Mass & Youth Group -8:00 AM-2:30 PM 24 Class 27 Confirmation Class with Parents 6:00 PM-8:00 PM
Mar	2 Class & Youth Group-12:30 PM-2:30 PM 5 Confirmation Class with Parents-6:00 PM-8:00 PM 9 Class 12 Confirmation Class with Parents-6:00 PM-8:00 PM 16 Class & Family Mass & Youth Group-8:00 PM-2:30 PM 19 Confirmation Class with Parents-6:00 PM-8:00 PM 23 Easter Egg Hunt (after 11:00 am Mass) Sponsored by YG 26 Confirmation Class with Parents-6:00 PM-8:00 PM 30 Class & Youth Group-12:30 PM-2:30 PM
Apr	2 Confirmation Class with Parents-6:00 PM-8:00 PM 6 Class & Youth Group-12:30 PM-2:30 PM 13 Class & Confirmation 12:45 PM Mass at Immaculate Heart 16 First Communion Class with Parents 6:00-7:30 PM Ed. Bldg. 20 Class & Family Mass & Youth Group-12:30 PM-2:30 PM 23 First Communion Class with Parents 6:00-7:30 PM Ed. Bldg. 27 Class & Youth Group-12:30 PM-2:30 PM 30 First Communion Class with Parents 6:00-7:30 PM Ed. Bldg.
May	4 Class & Youth Group-12:30 PM-2:30 PM 7 First Communion Class with Parents 6:00-7:30 PM Ed. Bldg. 11 Class & First Communion & May Crowning – 11:00 AM Mass 18 Class & Family Mass & Youth Group-12:30 PM-2:30 PM
June	8 Family Bible Jamboree 12:30-3:30 15 Family Bible Jamboree 12:30-3:30 22 Family Bible Jamboree 12:30-3:30

GRADE LEVEL EXPECTATIONS

Kindergarten

Sign of the Cross, The Lord's Prayer, Hail Mary, Glory Be, Angel of God. Creation, God's Gifts, Bible Stories

First Grade

Prayer to My Guardian Angel, I Believe, Grace Before Meals. The Church as a Family, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

Sacramental Class

Act of Contrition, Nicene Creed, Prayer to the Holy Spirit, Form for Confession. Mass, Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, Original Sin, Mortal Sin, Venial Sin, Sacrament of Reconciliation, Miracles of Jesus, Ten Commandments, Grace

Third Grade

Apostles' Creed, Prayer to Jesus Christ in the Eucharist, Vocation Prayer. Jesus' Life, Death & Resurrection, Holiness, Obligation to become Saints, Lives of the Saints.

Fourth Grade

Prayer of Sorrow, Act of Faith, Nicene Creed. God's Revelation through Scripture, Trinity, Divinity & Humanity of Jesus, Pentecost, Sacraments and Moral Life, Helping the Poor,

Fifth Grade

Hail Holy Queen, The *Memorare*. Jesus, God's Greatest Gift, Explore the Sacraments in Relationship to Daily Life and the Church.

Child Abuse

According to state law, we are required to report suspected child abuse. We will also follow diocesan policy on such matters.

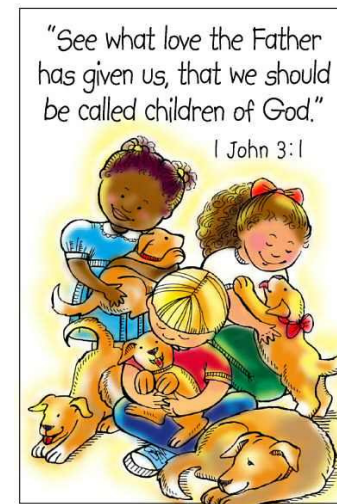
Every family in religious education and youth ministry will receive the following from the Diocese of Orlando:

"Child Sexual Abuse and Prevention Booklet"

"Child Sexual Abuse and Prevention Booklet CD"

Diocese of Orlando Network Acceptable Use Policy

We will abide by the this diocesan policy. All families should have received the Parent Addendum in July, 2007. After reading it, the agreement to abide by the terms and conditions of the Parent Addendum was to be signed and returned to Rita Bostwick. If you have not returned it, please do so as soon as possible. The entire policy may be reviewed at: <http://www.orlandodiocese.org>



Arrival & Dismissal

Classes begin promptly at 9:30 AM or immediately after the 8:30 AM Mass.

Students should wait in the hallway outside the classroom until the teacher arrives.

Students who will be singing in the choir for the Family Masses will be escorted to the church in a group. All students are encouraged and invited to participate in the Family Masses by singing in the choir, reading, or in the offertory procession.

Please be prompt in picking up the students after classes are dismissed at 10:45 AM. If you are not picking up your child, the person who will pick up the child must have a note signed by the parent/guardian stating your permission to release your child to them.

Health Concerns and Medication

Health concerns should be brought to the attention of the Director of Religious Education (DRE) during registration.

Please note any special medical needs on the registration form.

If a child is diagnosed with a medical condition after registration, please inform the DRE and the catechist as soon as possible.

Confidentiality regarding any medical condition will be kept between the parent, DRE, and the catechist.

Sixth Grade

Act of Faith, Act of Love. Old Testament – Abraham & Sara, Moses & the Exodus, Samuel & Saul, Prophets, Old Testament reveals the Resurrection and Coming of Jesus.

Seventh Grade

Review Prayers. New Testament, Gospel Examples of Jesus' Identity as God, Spreading the Kingdom of God, Relationship to God and Others, The Twelve Apostles, The Holy Spirit's Guidance.

Eighth Grade

Review Prayers. The Church is Apostolic and Trinitarian, The Early Church's Trials & Struggles, The Medieval Church, The Renaissance and Reformation, God Is Revealed Through Scripture, Vatican Council II, The Church Today.

The High School

Religious formation does not end with the sacrament of Confirmation. The United States Catholic Conference of Bishops requires parishes to have religious formation classes for high school students. During Youth Group meetings, students learn how to interpret and evaluate their life experiences in the light of faith; think of themselves as Christians and to act like disciples of Christ, reaching out to those in need and becoming an active member of Our Lady of the Springs Church family; develop Christian values and a desire to grow in faith through study, prayer, and living as a Catholic.

Confirmation Class

Students must be **14 or older** and in the **9th grade** or above to be admitted to the Confirmation Class. A letter from student explaining the reason for wanting to be confirmed. Prayers from previous years, Holy Spirit as the Third Person of the Trinity, Meeting the Holy Spirit for the First Time in Baptism, Role of Holy Spirit in Personal Life and the Life of the Church, Witness and Disciple of Christ, Liturgy of Confirmation, Ten Commandments, Seven Sacraments, Gifts of the Holy Spirit, Trinity, Fasting & Abstinence, Corporal & Spiritual Works of Mercy, Meaning of the Eucharist, Lenten Obligations, Seasons of the Church, 20 Service Hours. **Ten service hours must be completed before January 1, 2008.**

Policies

Registration

All students must be registered before attending classes. Registration forms can be filled out on Parents' Information Night or in the Church office. There is a \$25 Registration Fee for each child.

Attendance

Attendance will be recorded each week so those students who have perfect attendance will be recognized at the end of the school year.

If a student is absent two weeks in a row, the teacher will contact the parent(s) or guardian.

Late arrivals are disruptive to the class. Parents are encouraged to ensure that students arrive on time.

Kindergarten to Grade 8

All students in kindergarten to eighth grade are required to attend religious education classes every year. Through the study of Scripture, prayer, Church teaching and parish community, students' understanding of the Catholic faith will be deepened and nurtured.

Grades 9 - 12

High School Students, grades nine to twelve are required to attend youth group as part of their religious education. Through prayer, Scripture, Church Doctrine, and service to others, students' will learn to apply their Catholic faith to daily life situations.

Junior High Youth Group

Students in Grades 6-8 may attend youth group activities to strength their faith in service to the Church and others.

First Communion and Confirmation

Parent(s) and Guardians of students who will be receiving the sacraments of First Communion and Confirmation are required to fill out a sacramental form in addition to the regular registration form. The student's baptismal certificate must be submitted if the student was not baptized here at Our Lady of the Springs.

Parent(s) and Guardians are required to attend all parent meetings regarding Sacramental and Confirmation preparation.

Students in the Sacramental and Confirmation classes are limited to 3 absences.