

“The Christian home is the place where children receive the first proclamation of the faith. For this reason the family home is rightly called ‘the domestic church,’ a community of grace and prayer, a school of human virtues and of Christian charity.”
(Catechism of the Catholic Church No. 1666)

August 20, 2020

Dear Religious Education Families,

I hope you are doing well and have found some Spirit-filled moments of grace and joy this summer. You have been in our continued thoughts and prayers.

Finding a path forward in these uncertain times has been a challenge for us all. With governmental guidelines and restrictions related to the COVID pandemic ever changing, Fr. Tim and I have decided to move forward with an online faith formation format for the 2020-2021 religious education year. This was not an easy decision. We know that the family spirit and the intimate faith sharing that goes on in our classrooms on Sundays at St. Ambrose can never be replaced with an online program; however, we feel that this is the most prudent pathway at this time.

The role of parents in the faith formation of their children is indispensable. Our faith formation program has always been focused on partnering with parents in sharing the light of our rich Catholic faith with their children. This year we will be supporting you even more as we offer a homeschool-based approach to religious education. We will provide both print and digital resources to work with their children.

We know how important it is for parents to talk with children about their faith, but we don't want to make doing this so difficult or time consuming that they can't do it. Our goal is to equip, affirm and support parents as the primary educators of the faith and not overwhelm them with more work. Our program will be simple, straightforward and flexible for families. Families will receive an easy to follow syllabus, instructions, and weekly lesson email each week so that students can work both independently and together as a family. The time commitment will be 1-2 hours a week and follow our traditional faith formation calendar. Enclosed with this letter you will find a general outline of our online program as well as important dates and registration details.

We continue to pray for you and your family and thank you for your continued prayers and support. We look forward to supporting all of our families as we embark on our new discipleship journey focused on refreshing our mission as Domestic Church. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to me at the religious education office (313) 332-5633 / reled.stambrose@comcast.net.

Blessings,

Kelly Woolums, Director of Religious Ed.