



May 5, 2021

Greetings! 2021-2022 Registration is here!

Our first full year with our *Be My Disciples* and *Family Life* curriculum was AWESOME! In the 2021-2022 school year, we are going to dig deeper into this curriculum by renewing a focus of instituting the practices that we are learning. The past year with the COVID-19 Pandemic has been very difficult for some families who have yet to return to Mass. Now that the dispensation has been lifted and vaccines are being administered, we want to focus on welcoming all of our families back to St. John Neumann for Sunday Mass. To do this, the Religious Formation Department has been asked to sponsor both the 12:30 PM Mass and 6:00 PM Mass each week by inviting our families to participate **as a family** with the different liturgical ministries. Please see the attached information regarding the Religious Formation sponsored Mass for all the details.

In July 2021, we will begin the school year with our Vacation Bible School (VBS) program, **TREASURED: DISCOVERING YOU'RE PRICELESS TO GOD**, which will run from Monday, July 19, 2021 through Friday, July 23, 2021 from 8:30 AM – 1:00 PM. The VBS Leadership and Core Group has been preparing for this great event since December 2020. We encourage **ALL STUDENTS Grades PK/K – 5** to sign up and invite your friends to join you! It will definitely be a week of action packed fun! **Since we are still challenged with the COVID-19 Pandemic and require social distancing, we will be limiting the attendance to 50 children. Please plan to get your registration in early.**

Our eCat “Encounter Catechesis” weekly class schedule for Grades 1-6 will remain the same as 2020-2021. **We are offering classes for all grades at each session, as long as there are at least 4 students in the grade level. There will be NO virtual classes offered at this time. If we run into another shutdown, we will adjust the schedule at that time.** If you have any questions about the times, please contact our Office. The class schedule is below:

Sunday: 8:45 – 10:15 AM, Grades 1-6
Sunday: 10:45 AM – 12:15 PM, Grades 1-6
Monday: 5:30 – 7:00 PM, Grades 1-6
Tuesday: 5:30 – 7:00 PM, Grades 1-6

There is a new program for Grades 7 & 8, please see the attached letter from Emily Showler, Coordinator of Youth Ministry and Young Adults.

In total, we will have **24 Sessions of eCat Weekly Catechesis and 5 Sessions of Family Life**. The 24 Sessions will include the students meeting in the classroom with their catechists and learning about what we believe, how we worship, how we live a good moral life, and each class will give a hands on approach to learning about Sacred Scripture. The 5 **Family Life** Sessions will include the parent (Grandparent, Aunt/Uncle etc.) and the student together to learn about “God’s Gifts to Us”. All grades will discuss the same topics with grade appropriate language and the sessions will take place at the student’s regularly scheduled class night with their same Catechist. This program was received very well by the parents, students and Catechists.

Due to the importance of the **Circle of Grace** mandated Archdiocesan Safe Environment Program, we will be moving it from the classroom setting to a retreat setting on Saturday, October 30, 2021 at 10:00 AM. We will separate the children by grades and have trained staff teach the appropriate lessons with an information lesson for the parents.

We have moved the Family Ministry under the Religious Formation Department recently and want to invite all families to join us for Pray ‘n Play Thursdays and the Monthly Family Ministry Events. Please check the bulletin or website for details.

Our primary formation opportunity for Kindergarteners is **Children’s Liturgy of the Word (CLOW)**, which has been offered at the 10:30 am weekend Mass from October through April. This program was suspended due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, but we are praying it will be back in the fall as planned. We would LOVE to get enough volunteers to help grow these offerings to three Masses per weekend. **CLOW** is an age-appropriate scripture service where **4 year olds thru second graders** can hear and respond to the Gospel just like mom and dad do in the main church! We are also bringing back **Kindergarten Story Hour** this year. These story hours will invite parents and their kindergarteners to hear a story together, share a snack, participate in a craft, and make a plan to live the moral of the story at home! We will have classes two times a month on Monday nights at 5:30-7:00 pm. The schedule of dates is attached to this Registration Form.

SACRAMENTAL REGISTRATION AND PREP: We will continue to use the **“Blessed” First Reconciliation and First Communion Preparation Program** through Dynamic Catholic. This program has 7 sessions in the fall for First Reconciliation and 7 sessions in the spring for First Communion. These will be offered on **Sunday afternoons (4:15 PM – 5:45 PM) or Thursday evenings (5:15 PM – 6:45 PM)**. See the attached Schedule for exact dates. You can register your child for these classes on the “All Inclusive” Registration Form Attached. Catholic School Students will continue attending formation through their schools and will also register for Sacramental Prep sessions with this Form.

Finally, in order to completely register your child, **PLEASE COMPLETE AND TURN IN ALL PAGES OF THE REGISTRATION BOOKLET before Sunday, September 5, 2021!** The papers attached by paper clip are yours to keep. If you have any questions, please contact the Religious Formation Office.

God Bless you now and always.

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