



August 10, 2020

Dear CCE Parents,

Greetings! I hope this email finds you at a place of peace. And if it doesn't, can I say I'm right there with you? Normalcy is out the window at this point, as plans seem to change daily and emotions eb and flow. But how grateful are we to be Christians, God's chosen ones, whom He never abandons? As Jesus reminds us in yesterday's gospel, "Take courage, it is I." When I feel overwhelmed by the shift of EVERYTHING that once was, "Take courage" recenters me. It reminds me He is already here, that worrying will not help and no matter how hard I try to control this circumstance, I can't. And you know what, that's okay. His ways are dang sure better than mine. So with a motto of "Take Courage", I would like to share with you what our CCE program will look like this year.

Because of the blessing of our large group of St. Philip kiddos, we are unable to properly social distance inside the church building and classrooms. Therefore, our CCE program will be virtual for the 2020-21 school year. Our grade levels will still consist of Kindergarten-8th grade. High School students will be participating with the St. Louis Youth Group, which will also be virtual this year.

Our format will be one of a one-room schoolhouse. Every Wednesday evening, all parents and students will log in to the same virtual lesson via Zoom at 6 pm. From roughly 6-6:45 pm, we will have group instruction. Our focus will be on the upcoming Sunday gospel reading, accompanied by lessons on our faith and our beautiful saints. During our time, myself along with other volunteers will share and teach. Kiddos must have at least one parent watching/interacting with them. For the remainder of the hour, parents will work alongside their children as they complete their leaflet for the week, which will be passed out at our parent meeting. (Date TBD)

This style of learning is called Family Catechesis. While this is going to look different and may take a little adjustment, through prayer and patience, this unique opportunity provides us with a chance to sit as a family for one hour during each week, placing our faith front and center. God knew COVID was coming. And while he can't take away our suffering or anxiety or routines that look drastically different, God promises to never leave us. And through these promises, the situation we find ourselves in can and will bear fruits, fruits we never imagined, if only we allow them. My hope is that our 2020-21 CCE year will prove to be one of the fruits God intended during this time. Parents, I invite you to "Take Courage" with me as we accept what has been given and not just make the most of it, but yet make something remarkably beautiful.

Our CCE calendar is still being finalized and will be emailed to you by the beginning of next week. Zoom classes will begin mid-September in order to allow for some adjustment time as we head back to school.

Will you please click the link below and register your children this week, as I need to finalize our materials soon? One form is required per child.

<https://stphilipcs.com/faith-formation>

Fees are as follows:

\$60 for 1 child

\$80 for 2 children

\$100 for 3 children

\$120 for 4 or more children

Payments can be accepted either on our website (credit cards or electronic checks) or in person (checks or cash).

### **Paying Online**

1. Complete the registration form for your child.
2. At the bottom of the form you will see the fee section. Select the amount of children you will be registering. If you have more than one child, you will be paying for all of your children at once.
3. Click on Pay Now.
4. Complete your payment. If you only have one child to register, you are done. If you have more than one child, continue to the next step.
5. Complete the registration form for your next child. 6. At the bottom of the form select \$0- Already Paid and click Pay Later (even though you have already paid). Complete steps 5 and 6 for the remainder of your children.

### **Paying in Person**

If you would prefer to pay in person, select the fee amount for your family and select Pay Later. If you have more than one child, select the fee for your entire family on each form.

Please make checks out to St. Philip Catholic Mission, and mail to the church office. You may also place checks or cash in an envelope with your children's names listed on the outside and set in the Sunday collection basket.

St. Philip  
PO Box 430  
China Spring, TX 76633

Email me with any questions.

With prayer and courage,  
Amy

St. Philip Catholic Mission  
DRE/Pastoral Associate