



THE CHURCH OF  
saint anne

201-791-1616 x224 or 218 weekday      201-796-3353 Sunday/Summer  
E-mail address: STANNEFAITH@GMAIL.COM

**Faith Formation Director:** Mrs. Colleen Jagde  
**Faith Formation Assistant** Ms. Claire Liberato

The Faith Formation Office is staffed Monday through Thursday from 9 am to 4 pm and during all sessions. This schedule varies when public schools are not in session, so at these times please call before you visit us.

**Pastor:** Rev. Joseph Doyle  
**Parochial Vicar:** Rev. Colin Kay  
**Deacon:** Mr. Richard McGarry

Enrollment in our Faith Formation Program is offered to all registered parishioners who participate in the sacramental life of the church and most especially Sunday Eucharist. The Program is open to all Parish children in Kindergarten through Grade 8, who are not in Catholic School.

Our goal is to work together to form a partnership dedicated to the faith formation of your child and your family. Faith Formation happens first within the family. The Rite of Baptism calls parents to commit to “raising children in the practice of the faith”, which affirms that parents are the first and most important teachers of the Catholic faith. Through this commitment, our children and families will continue to develop a greater love for God and Church and our Faith Formation programs will continue to support what goes on in the home. Besides attending Faith Formation sessions, it is essential that your family participate in Mass weekly. All these experiences gives the children/family the opportunity to build their faith which is grounded in God’s love, family experience, the witness of others and is brought to fruition as we celebrate as a parish family of faith, especially when we celebrate the Eucharist.

***Sunday Morning Program - Grade 1 through Grade 8***

Meets in school after the 9:30 am Mass, classes begin at 10:45 am to Noon

***Special Needs/Tuesday Angels***

Church Hall

Tuesdays – 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm

**Home Study – Grade 1 through 6**

**Family Catechesis Home Study – Grade 7 and Grade 8**

Material covered/completed at home and attend follow up gatherings during the academic year according to the schedule distributed – attendance is mandatory

**Summer (dates vary according to FairLawn summer dismissal)**

**8:30 am to 1 pm**

**Enrollment is limited to children that have been enrolled in the St. Anne Faith Formation program for at least one year prior. The only exception is for children entering the first grade.**

*Since time is short, please arrive a few minutes early so classes can begin promptly and do not make arrangements for early dismissal.*

*Program schedules and assignment list/due dates will be provided to all registered families at Parent Meetings.*

## **Parent Involvement Necessary**

Parents are the first and primary teachers of faith. The entire Church of St. Anne staff is here to provide support and guidance on your family's faith formation journey. Parents are expected to attend the Parent Meetings which are listed on the Session Calendars. **The success of all of our programs and Parish Carnival is directly attributed to the participation of all families, whether it is one day or on a regular basis...**

### **WE NEED YOU!**

*"Parents have shared the gift of human life with their children and, through Baptism, have enriched them with a share in God's own life. They have the duty to nourish it. Their faith, their attitude toward other human beings, and their trust in a loving God strongly influence the development of the child's faith. Parents are catechists precisely because they are parents. Their role in the formation of Christian values in their children is irreplaceable. They should speak naturally and simply about God and their faith, as they do about other matters they want their children to understand and appreciate."* (National Directory for Catechesis, USCCB, *Catechesis of Infant and Children 641*)

## **Adult Volunteers**

All new volunteers (18 years old and older) will need to agree to attend a training session and apply for a background check as required by our archdiocese and the NCCB's plan for **Protecting God's Children**. These are provided at no cost.

## **Homework**

It is the parents' responsibility to follow up with any home assignment.

Completed assignments should be given to the child's Catechist according to the schedule on the reverse side of the program calendar. All completed work should be presented to the Catechist at each session. Chapter reviews for Home Study programs should be submitted online, according to the instructions on the program calendar.

## **Dropping Off and Picking up Children**

Classes will begin promptly at the scheduled times, children should arrive a few minutes early. **All cars should be legally parked at arrival and dismissal of students**

## **Absence Policy**

**Attendance is encouraged at all sessions.**

Sunday policy – no more than 3 absences excused and/or unexcused.

Summer, Home Study and Family Catechesis – zero absences and must attend additional follow up gatherings during the academic year according to the schedule distributed – attendance is mandatory.

**Additional session guidelines will be outlined on the program calendar.**

## **Textbooks**

Children will be presented with a textbook at the beginning of the program year. Lost textbooks will be replaced at a cost determined by the Faith Formation staff based on the current cost and shipping fees paid.

## **Inclement Weather and Other Closures**

We will attempt to e-mail and text families as soon as it is determined that a session has been cancelled. No individual calls will be made.



## **The ACRE Assessment**

The Assessment of Catholic Religious Education will be administered to all children in Grades 5 and 8. This survey-assessment is used to help bishops, publishers and policy makers identify needs, set policies and come up with effective texts and materials. Although names may be recorded on the survey sheet for attendance purposes, the surveys are not individually graded. The group scores are used to identify themes which need the attention of the Archdiocese or the parish Faith Formation Program.

## **Sacrament Preparation**

Our Faith Formation journey is one in which we grow in a deeper relationship with the person of Christ and understanding of the Catholic Church. Preparation for the Sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation happen separately from the scheduled Faith Formation Sessions. The young people are enrolled in the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion Preparation sessions **once one full year of curriculum has been completed**. Children traditionally enroll in the Faith Formation Program in 1<sup>st</sup> grade and First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion are generally celebrated in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. Young people being presented for the Sacrament of Confirmation should have attended continuous Catholic faith formation since First Holy Communion. There will be special Parent Meetings and Family/Child Preparation Sessions for all children who choose to receive the Sacraments. Notifications of Meetings and Preparation Sessions will be mailed to families at the appropriate time. Guidelines will be outlined at a Special Sacrament Preparation Parent meeting.

*Enrollment in the Sacrament Preparation Program(s) (First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and/or Confirmation) may be delayed due to excessive absences and/or missed years of attendance. "Catechesis for school-age children is an initial catechesis but not a fragmentary one, since it will have to reveal, although in an elementary way, all the principal mysteries of faith and their effects on the child's moral and religious life." (National Directory for Catechesis, USCCB, Structured Catechesis 642)*

## **Program Offering**

A fee is noted on the registration form. Many expenses are associated with a Faith Formation program, curriculum, bibles, office equipment, copies, postage, etc. This fee helps offset these expenses.

## **Parish Events**

Each family is expected to participate in the life of the Parish. The events help us extend ourselves within and outside our family and parish family. Your participation keeps the foundation of our Church healthy and strong! *"First, you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this, you shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these."* (Mark 13: 30 – 31)

## **Guidelines for Successful Sessions**

\*Arrive a few minutes early. All sessions will begin promptly at the assigned session time.

\*Please bring child prepared for each session. Child should bring book, pen or pencil and all completed assignments.

\*Avoid bringing unnecessary items which cause distractions. Electronic games and iPods are prohibited.

\* Food and drinks should not be brought to any session. Besides a housekeeping issue, food and drink can be a hazard to anyone that has food allergies. **Those attending the summer program are allowed to bring a water bottle and a healthy peanut free/tree nut free snack. No gum chewing at any session.**

\*It is strongly encouraged that children leave cellphones at home. If cellphone is brought to a session it should NOT be in use, it should be silenced at all sessions, and especially during Mass. It should never be in use. The Church of St. Anne will not be responsible for any missing device. There is a phone in the office for emergencies.

### **Discipline**

There are very few issues or difficulties with discipline and behavior. As Christians, we should all try to keep a Christian atmosphere and attitude in our day-to-day activities. Pastoral staff and Catechists will remind the children of their obligation to treat everyone with love and respect according to the example of Jesus. All students should be properly dressed for class. If children are not adhering to the guidelines, the following procedure will be followed:

**First Occurrence:** Catechist will call child aside, and explain the inappropriateness of the behavior and set expectations for the child.

**Second Occurrence:** The child will be sent to the office for a meeting with the Director who will record the details of the difficulty and reinforce the Catechists expectations.

**Third Occurrence:** Parent(s) will be called in and the situation will be discussed, as well as what needs to be done to remedy the problem.

If a discipline problem occurs which is serious enough that the safety of others may be compromised or has caused others harm or to feel threatened, parents will be called immediately to come in to pick up their child and discuss the situation and possible solutions.

**PLEASE PICK UP CHILDEN PROMPTLY AT DISMISSAL.  
There will be no supervision for your child after that time.**

