



2013-2014 Saint Mary's CCD Information Sheet

Information for parents of students at ALL grade levels

QUESTIONS: If you have any questions, you may address them to:

Coordinator of Religious Education (Grades 1-6): Mrs. Dubbs @ 978-663-2215 ext. 11

Associate Director of Religious Education: Mr. Spinale @ 978-663-2215 ext. 20

- * For **NEW** students in a family – please complete the form of the **BACK SIDE** of your child's registration form.
- * On your registration form – please **INCLUDE** if your child plays a sport. If making a **SPECIAL REQUEST** (for a certain class, certain teacher, or to be with a certain student) it must be in writing and included with your registration.
- * All students must register each Spring for the Fall sessions of Religious Education. **Lack of funds should NEVER be the excuse for not registering on time.**
- * **PAYMENT IS EXPECTED AT REGISTRATION, BUT IS ACCEPTED UP UNTIL THE TIME OF BOOK PICKUP.** (If there should be a special hardship problem, please speak to Mrs. Dubbs about other payment arrangements)
- * **Registrations AFTER August 30th will be charged a \$25.00 LATE FEE.**
- * **COST:** The current cost for the program is \$75.00 per child with a maximum of \$225.00 per family.
 - At the present time, we use a classroom based program for most grades. Classes are held on Sunday mornings. Grades 3 and 5 participate in our HomeSchool program. **NO class changes will be made after the start of classes in September.** Please note that with the forming of the Billerica Collaborative – it is possible that class times may change slightly (but still on Sunday AM).

ALL STUDENTS IN THE PROGRAM ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND MASS.

GRADE 1: Required as the first year of our First Communion Program. This group meets *in the Church Hall at 9:30 AM.*

GRADE 2: These classes meet *downstairs in the Church Hall – at 9:30 AM.* Parking (drop off/pick up) information will follow.

GRADE 4: These classes meet *downstairs in the Church Hall – at 9:30 AM.* Parking (drop off/pick up) information will follow.

GRADE 6: These classes meet from *10:30 – 11:20 AM downstairs in the Church Hall.* Parking (drop off/pick up) information will follow.

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GRADE 7: These classes meet from **8:30 – 9:20 AM downstairs in the Church Hall**. Parking (drop off/pick up) information will follow.

GRADE 8: These classes meet from **8:30 – 9:20 AM downstairs in the Church Hall**. Parking (drop off/pick up) information will follow.

GRADE 9: These classes meet from **10:30 – 11:20 AM downstairs in the Church Hall**. Parking (drop off/pick up) information will follow.

GRADE 10: Students in the Confirmation Program meet from **10:30 – 11:20 AM downstairs in the Church Hall**. Parking (drop off/pick up) information will follow.

GRADE 3 and 5: These grades will now be Homeschooled. Students in these grades should register, will receive a book and will also receive detailed instructions/guidelines on what to complete. Chapter work should be done each week and turned in every 2 weeks. Students are strongly encouraged to attend Mass on Saturday or Sunday. *This is an important part of the Homeschooling program.* **THESE YEARS MUST BE COMPLETED IN ORDER TO BE PROMOTED TO THE NEXT GRADE.**

CONFIRMATION: This sacrament is received at the end of 10th grade. The 9th and 10th Grade classes have special requirements with regards to the reception of this Sacrament. These requirements are explained at Grade Level meetings with Associate Director of Religious Education at the appropriate times.

FIRST COMMUNION & FIRST PENANCE: These Sacraments are received starting in the early spring with First Penance. First Communion is also held in the spring after the students receive their First Penance. Parent meetings and mailings will give you this information.

DATES AND TIMES OF CLASSES & BOOK PICK UP: For those in classes at the Church hall – CCD books will be given out the FIRST day of class. For those who will be Homeschooling their child and those in Grades 3 & 5....we will schedule a date for Book Pick Up. Dates and times of classes will be emailed to all students before classes start.

ABSENCES: These are limited to **5** per year. The child is required to bring in an absence note and also make up any missed work. To find out what work was missed, you should contact the child's teacher. If there should be a chronic illness or other issues, please speak with Mrs. Dubbs, Mr. Spinale, AND the teacher.

TEACHERS: Teachers are **ALWAYS** needed and work in a team approach. **If you would like to teach (or assist) in a class, please let us know.** Students do not learn the names of their teachers until the first day of CCD. If you should have special placement requests (including those parents who teach CCD) with regard to a teacher, or if you wish your child to be placed with another student, you must make these requests IN WRITING, AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION.

All students in the program are expected to attend Mass each week. It seems self explanatory that if children are going to learn about their Faith, that they are also practicing that Faith – both with the Parish Community and their families. It would seem that this is the least the Lord would expect.

The 8:30 AM Mass is geared for Youth and Family participation and provides a spirited and Spirit filled celebration of our faith.

HOMESCHOOLING

This option is available for Grades 1 - 9, but there are certain specific rules. **The child must be registered and pay the fee.**

Completed course material must be completed (1 chapter every week) and turned in every 2 weeks. A mid-year exam will be given, as well as an exam at the end of the year. The completed material will be reviewed by Mrs. Dubbs and Mr. Spinale and approved in order for the child to be promoted. It is assumed that the parent and the child **MUST** be attending Mass.