

# **St. Charles Borromeo Religious Formation Registration Information 2011/2012**

March 2011

Thank you for joining us for our 6th year of Religious Formation at St. Charles Borromeo!

The Religious Formation program here, at St. Charles Borromeo, is for students in 1<sup>st</sup> grade all the way through Confirmation (8<sup>th</sup> Grade). The children will meet in small, grade level groups to experience Scripture, Liturgy, Morality, Prayer, Catholic Beliefs, and Tradition. St. Charles Borromeo uses the Finding God curriculum from Loyola Press for 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grades. You can access the Finding God website ([www.findinggod.org](http://www.findinggod.org)) at any time to learn more about the curriculum or for ideas you can do for family activities.

The sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist are received typically for the first time in the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. Students in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade must have completed one year of Religious Formation classes prior to receiving the sacraments. The 2<sup>nd</sup> graders use the Call to Celebrate series from Harcourt Religion. You can access the Harcourt Religion website to learn more at ([http://your.harcourtreligion.com/home/ctc\\_bridge.html](http://your.harcourtreligion.com/home/ctc_bridge.html)).

The sacrament of Confirmation is typically received by students in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. The Archdiocese of Omaha requires a two-year preparation period for students who wish to receive the sacrament of Confirmation. Students in the Confirmation preparation period (usually 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade) are required to participate in retreats and complete stewardship activities in preparation for Confirmation. Along with their Finding God Curriculum they use the Confirmed in the Spirit Curriculum from Loyola Press. You can access the Loyola Press website to learn more at (<http://www.loyolapress.com/confirmed-in-the-spirit-resources.htm>).

Parent meetings are scheduled during the year for families of children who will be receiving a sacrament mentioned above. These meetings give parents an opportunity to review the content of the preparation and deepen their own understanding of the sacrament being received.

You as parents are welcome to visit your child's class at any time, and are encouraged to join us for the many activities we offer throughout the year. For the safety of all the children please make your presence known to the RF office before going to your child's class area.

The involvement of parents in the Religious Formation program is very important. Our program has been a great success in the past because of our many dedicated volunteers. Have you ever thought about being a catechist or helping with the many other areas for the Religious Formation program? We are currently signing up catechists and volunteers for 2011-12 year. Our goal is for catechists to teach in teams, with no more than 15 students per team. Lesson plans and activities will be provided. We also provide free child care for the younger children of our volunteers. Descriptions of the duties for these positions are found on the volunteer information form.

Due to the Safe Environment requirements that were established by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, volunteers at all parishes who work with or have access to children must attend Safe Environment training through the Archdiocese of Omaha and undergo a background check. Safe Environment training must be completed before you can begin working with the students. The current schedule for Safe Environment training is available at [www.archomaha.org](http://www.archomaha.org) under the Safe Environment Tab.

Please fill out the attached registration form. Completed forms along with payment may be returned to the Religious Formation Office. Checks should be made payable to St. Charles Borromeo. Registration forms are also available on the St. Charles Borromeo website under: Religious Formation at [www.stcharlesomaha.org](http://www.stcharlesomaha.org).

No child will be turned away due to financial reasons. If finances are a concern, please contact the RF office at 402-916-9750 or at [ahoeke@scbccomaha.org](mailto:ahoeke@scbccomaha.org) to fill out a tuition assistance form for full or partial assistance.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or if there is anything I can do to assist you with your child's religious formation. I look forward to working with your family for another successful year.

Sincerely,



Amanda Hoeke  
Director of Religious Formation  
St. Charles Borromeo