

St. Charles Borromeo Religious Formation Registration Information 2009/2010

February 2009

Thank you for joining us for our 4th year of Religious Formation at St. Charles Borromeo.

Grades 1-8

Students in grades 1-8 will meet in groups to experience Scripture, Liturgy, Morality, Prayer, Catholic Beliefs, and Tradition. St. Charles Borromeo uses the Finding God curriculum from Loyola Press. Parents can access the Finding God website (findinggod.org) at any time to learn more about the curriculum or for ideas for family activities.

The sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist are received for the first time in the 2nd grade. Students in 2nd grade must have completed one year of Religious Formation classes prior to receiving the sacraments. Confirmation is usually received by students in the 8th 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 7th and 8th grade) are required to participate in retreats and complete stewardship activities in preparation for Confirmation. Students in the final year of preparation (usually the 8th grade) are required to attend the Confirmation preparation classes scheduled outside of regular Religious Formation classes. Parent meetings are scheduled during the year for the three sacraments so that parents may review the content of the preparation and deepen their own understanding of the sacrament being received.

Parent Involvement

Parents are encouraged to participate as much as possible in the RF program and to use us as a resource for your family's faith formation needs. You 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. Please make your presence known to one of the coordinators before going to your child's class.

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.

Catechist/Volunteer Options

Have you ever thought about being a catechist? We are currently signing up catechists and volunteers for 2009-10. 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 provide free child care for the younger children of our catechists. Tuition fees are waived for the children of catechists, coordinators, office aids, and child care helpers. Descriptions of

the duties for these positions are found on the volunteer information form. Sacramental preparation fees are **not** waived for the children of catechists and volunteers.

Because of 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.

Registration

Please fill out the attached registration form. **There is a \$25 late fee for families who register after August 1, 2009.** Completed forms along with check or payment plan may be returned to the Parish Office. Checks should be made payable to St. Charles Borromeo.

We offer tuition assistance for families who need help with their tuition. A tuition assistance application form (for full or partial assistance) may be obtained by calling 659-0578. **No child will be turned away because of financial reasons.**

Registration forms are also available on the St. Charles Borromeo website under Religious Formation at www.stcharlesomaha.org.

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

Sincerely,

Jacalyn Schuler
Co-Coordinator of Religious Formation
St. Charles Borromeo

Amanda Hoeke
Co-Coordinator of Religious Formation
St. Charles Borromeo