

August 11, 2023

Dear St. Patrick Families,

I am so excited to welcome you back for another year of Religious Education at St. Patrick Parish! I've missed you and your children, as I haven't seen many of you since April! We are continuing with our family program this year, found at [familyformation.net](http://familyformation.net). Just a reminder of how it works: parents and children (grades K, 1, and 3-8) come together at the Holloway Center from 9-10:15. The children will go with their teacher for a lesson introducing the month's theme, and Father Evans and I will introduce the theme to the parents as well as hand out all the needed materials for the next three weeks. The lessons and activities are simple and fun, and kids and parents alike will enjoy them. The teachers, Father Evans, and I are very excited to see everyone soon!

The second grade schedule is in this packet for the families who have children eligible to receive First Reconciliation and First Communion this year. If you did not get a schedule and believe your child should receive those sacraments this year, please e-mail me. Parents who **only** have children in the program who are in 2<sup>nd</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade **DO NOT** need to attend the family program. Those students are using an entirely different curriculum. Second graders will be taught by Mr. Anthony Welty using *Go, Seek, Find: Discover God's Treasures*. Seventh and eighth graders will be spending time viewing and discussing a variety of videos as they learn to navigate their teen years through the lens of faith.

Regular attendance is vital to ensuring that your children are properly formed in their faith, as well as ready to receive sacraments. As our sacramental preparation is at minimum a two year process, students wishing to receive First Reconciliation and First Communion must attend classes *regularly* for first and second grade (or for two years before being eligible if they are older). Students wishing to be Confirmed must attend classes regularly for either sixth and seventh grade or seventh and eighth grade, depending on when Confirmation will be (second semester every odd-numbered year, so in 2025 the Bishop will Confirm our seventh and eighth graders). **Regular attendance will be considered no more than one excused absence per semester, with parents communicating this absence before class begins. Any absences after the excused absence must be made up. Please communicate with me or your child's teacher to arrange to complete the missed work with your child at home.**

Please fully complete the enclosed registration (2 pages, **front and back of both**), and don't forget to include your e-mail address. Also please note the photo release form on the

back page of the packet. You can drop the completed registration packet and payment off to Kara Grot in the parish office or bring it to the first day of class. However, I don't want the fee to keep your children from attending; if this is an issue for your family, please e-mail **Rhonda Jahn** at [rjahn@rockforddiocese.org](mailto:rjahn@rockforddiocese.org) **before the first day of class** to make arrangements for a payment plan. Otherwise, at least half the payment is due by the first day of class, and the remaining balance is due by December 1<sup>st</sup>.

If you have any questions, you can e-mail me at [scampbell7g@gmail.com](mailto:scampbell7g@gmail.com) or text/call me at (815) 564-0567. See you all in September if not before!

Sincerely,

Sarah Campbell, CRE