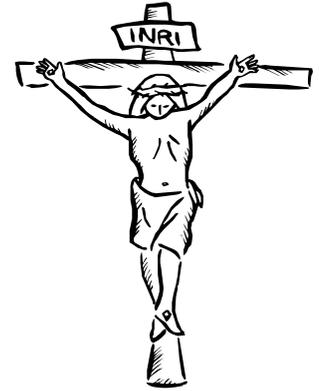


St. Boniface Catholic Church



**Faith Formation  
Handbook  
2017-2018**

# St. Boniface Faith Formation Mission Statement

God, whose love is infinite, created us in His image, to know, love and serve Him in this world and to live forever with Him in heaven. It is the first duty of parents to impart this knowledge to their children. St. Boniface Faith Formation program will then collaborate with parents to continue to teach children the heritage of truth and grace which Christ left us. It is the hope of this parish program to proclaim the teachings of the Catholic Church by which we might all attain our salvation.

Dear Friends in Christ,

Peace be with you and welcome back to another year of Faith Formation at the Church of St. Boniface!

Faith Formation is an on-going life-long process that forms, informs and transforms us to become disciples of Jesus Christ. We invite each of you to become an active participant in this process. May each of us come to know Jesus Christ more intimately and enter into communion with Him.

Our parish's committed volunteers and staff look forward to another year of sharing our Catholic faith with your children. We greatly appreciate your continued cooperation and support, and we ask for your prayers as we begin this school year. Please know that you and your family are in our prayers.

Mary Willadsen  
Coordinator of Faith Formation  
Grades K-10  
(952) 446-1054 Ext: 25  
[stbonifacefaithformation@gmail.com](mailto:stbonifacefaithformation@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.stboniface-stmary.org](http://www.stboniface-stmary.org)

# Faith Formation Kick-Off!

**Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup>**

10:30am Mass

Students and Parents meet their Catechists and Assistants following mass.

Lunch to follow in Fellowship Hall.

**Attendance at our Faith Formation Kick-Off is MANDATORY for every family participating in our Faith Formation Program.**

At least one parent from each family must attend. If you have conflicts or concerns, please contact Mary @ 952-446-1054 x 25 or [stbonifaithformation@gmail.com](mailto:stbonifaithformation@gmail.com)



*"Let the little children come to me ..."*

MATTHEW 19:14

## Faith Formation Classes Grades K-10

Faith Formation classes are offered on Wednesdays for children in grades K-10.  
All classes are held in the school.

### Faith Formation Class Times

Grades K -5 ~ Wednesdays from 5:15 – 6:15pm

Grades 6 -10 ~ Wednesdays from 7:00 – 8:15pm

# **FAITH FORMATION CALENDAR**

As of today, this is our **Wednesday** schedule:

\*Please watch bulletin and e-mails for possible calendar updates and changes throughout the year\*



## **August:**

**19 & 20 - Registration weekend**  
**26 & 27 - Registration weekend**

## **September:**

**10 - Parish Hog Roast**  
**20 - CatechistGathering@7pm**  
**24 - Faith Formation Kick-Off Sunday**  
**27 - 1<sup>st</sup> class & Confirmation Parent Meet 7pm**

## **October:**

**4 - Class**  
**11 - Class & 2nd Grade Parent Meeting**  
**18 - NO CLASS (MEA)**  
**25 - Class**

## **November:**

**1 - All Saints Day – Mass**  
**8 - Class**  
**11 - Children's Mass**  
**15 - Class**  
**22 - NO CLASS (Thanksgiving)**  
**29 - Class**

## **December:**

**6 - Class**  
**13 - Class/Confessions**  
**17 - Christmas Program**  
**20 - Class**  
**27 - NO CLASS (Christmas Break)**

## **January:**

**3 - Class**  
**6 - 1<sup>st</sup> Reconciliation Gathering**  
**10 - Class**  
**17 - Class**  
**24 - Class**  
**27 - 1<sup>st</sup> Reconciliation 11am**  
**31 - Class**

## **February:**

**7 - Class**  
**14 - Ash Wednesday - Mass**  
**21 - Class**  
**23 - Lenten Soup Supper**  
**28 - Class/Confessions**

## **March:**

**3 - 1<sup>st</sup> Communion Gathering**  
**7 - Class/Stations of the Cross**  
**11 - Bunny Bingo**  
**14 - Class**  
**21 - Interviews**  
**28 - Holy Week – Spring Break**

## **April:**

**4 - Class**  
**7 - 1<sup>st</sup> Communion Practice**  
**8 - 1<sup>st</sup> Communion Sunday**  
**11 - Class**  
**18 - Class**  
**25 - Class**  
**29 - Confirmation Send off**

## **May:**

**2 - Class**  
**5 - Confirmation**  
**6 - May Crowning**  
**9 - Last class**  
**20 - Baccalaureate Mass/Welcoming**

# Sacrament Preparation



## First Reconciliation & First Communion

The second grade curriculum focuses on preparing students for the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Communion.



**A parent meeting** will be held on Wednesday, October 11th at 5:15 pm in the school gym to discuss preparations for both sacraments.

### First Reconciliation

Our **Parent/Child Gathering** is on Saturday, January 6th at 9:00 am in the fellowship hall.  
The **Celebration of First Reconciliation** is on Saturday, January 27th at 11:00 am in the Church.

### First Communion

Our **Parent/Child Gathering** is on Saturday, March 3rd at 9:00 am in the fellowship hall.  
Our **Parent/Child First Communion Practice** is on Saturday, April 7th at 11:00 am  
The **Celebration of First Communion** is on Sunday, April 8th at 10:30 am Mass.

## CONFIRMATION Preparation Program

The St. Boniface Confirmation Preparation Program is designed as a two year program, completed during the 9th & 10th grades. Classes are held on Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:15. Students are expected to attend all classroom sessions, service projects, retreats and other scheduled events and fulfill their Sunday (or Saturday night) and Holy Day obligations.

**Parent/student meeting** will be held on Wednesday, September 27th at 7:00 pm in the School. All parents are encouraged to come, but at least 1 parent is required.

The parish **“Send off Mass”** will be held for the *students and their sponsors* on Sunday, April 29, 10:30 mass.

The celebration of **Confirmation** will take place on Saturday, May 5 at 10:00 am at the Basilica of St. Mary in Minneapolis.

The parish **“Welcoming and Baccalaureate Mass”** for our confirmands and graduates Sunday, May 20, 10:30 Mass

# General Information

## **Tuition:**

In order to provide text books and other materials for our Faith Formation program, we charge a fee per student. Parishioners of St. Boniface pay \$80.00 per student with a cap per family; non-parishioners pay \$160.00 per student.

## **Severe Weather:**

If the local school districts have early dismissal or are closed due to the weather, St. Boniface Faith Formation classes will also be canceled. If schools are not closed but there are severe weather changes during the day, we will make every attempt to contact schools to make an announcement of our class cancellation. If it is too late to make that announcement, an attempt will be made to contact each home with the information via e-mail. If you question whether or not class will be held, please call the parish office at 446-1054, ext. 25. If we do not cancel, please use your own judgment.

## **Attendance:**

Continuing Christian development requires students to attend classes regularly at all grade levels. If your child will be absent, you **must** inform the Faith Formation office (446-1054 ext.25) prior to class. Attendance will be taken each class and parents will be notified when a child is unexcused. Students will not be permitted to leave class early without permission from their parents or guardians.

## **Communication:**

Please watch the Sunday bulletin and/or the parish website for Faith Formation updates! Flyers and letters will be e-mailed/sent home with your student as needed. [www.stboniface-stmary.org](http://www.stboniface-stmary.org)

## **Criminal History Background Checks:**

Your child's safety is of the utmost importance to us. All employees as well as all school volunteers who have regular or unsupervised contact with minors are subject to criminal background checks and must attend a VIRTUS Training Session and sign the volunteer Code of Conduct.

## **Student Participation:**

The study of the Catholic faith is about building a relationship, coming to know and love the Person of Jesus Christ. Like any relationship, effort must be put forth by both people. The following qualities will help our students grow in this relationship with Christ and will help our catechists maintain a positive learning environment for all of our students:

- A **willingness** to learn, participate, grow in their faith, and to attend Mass regularly
- A **great respect** for the rights of others and their property, with a particular respect for their catechists
- An **attentive responsibility** for one's work and actions
  - ⇒ Food and drink are not allowed on a regular basis. Students should ask their catechist's permission to bring food and drink into the classroom.
  - ⇒ Toys, games, electronic devices, ipods, cell phones, and the like are NOT allowed in the classroom.
  - ⇒ No dark color sole shoes/boots in gymnasium (they leave marks on the floor).
  - ⇒ Students should thoroughly complete any homework assignments given by their catechists.
  - ⇒ No visitors without prior approval from Faith Formation Coordinator due to liability.

## **Dress Code Policy:**

All students/catechist are expected to dress in fashion that represents modesty and good taste, respecting others and our Lord. Clothing must cover all undergarments and midriffs. Clothing that displays profane or offensive messages or images are not allowed. Violators will be asked to change at the discretion of catechist or St. Boniface Staff. Parents will also be notified and reminded of proper dress code.

## **Discipline Policy:**

If a student fails to follow the rules outlined above, or other rules implemented by his/her catechist, he/she will be asked to leave the classroom. This discipline violation will be discussed by the student, catechists, and Coordinator. Upon a second violation, both the student's parents and Fr. Joseph will be notified. Upon a third violation, there will be a meeting with Father, the student and his/her parents to draw up a probation contract.

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

# Curriculum Overview

## Image of God Curriculum

St. Boniface Faith Formation uses the *Image of God* curriculum for grades K-5. This program is centered on a new approach found in the writings and teachings of Saint Pope John Paul II. This approach stresses the dignity of each individual as a person made in the image of God.

### Kindergarten

The “Who Am I?” program is a Catholic religion curriculum for kindergarten age children. This program has as its emphasis two key truths of the Faith: God and creation. The material in each lesson revolves around fundamentals of our Faith stated in terms the children can understand and remember. Some of the lessons include: The Trinity, Creation, Grace and Angels, The Ten Commandments, Jesus Our Savior, The Sacraments, The Mass, and more. These are pre-reading lessons with many hands on projects for them to enjoy.

### First Grade

The “Who Has God’s Life?” program is a Catholic religion curriculum for first-grade children. The Grade 1 program has as its emphasis two key truths of the Faith: grace and sacraments. These key truths form the unifying elements of the lessons. The material in each lesson revolves around fundamentals of our Faith stated in terms the children can understand and remember. Lessons include: The Trinity, Creation, Grace and Angels, The Ten Commandments, Adam and Eve – Original Sin, Our Need for Grace, Jesus Our Savior, Miracles, Jesus Teaches us to Pray, Jesus Teaches Us How to Act, The Apostles, Jesus with Us: The Church, We Believe, Jesus’ Touch: The Sacraments, The Mass, and more.

### Second Grade

The “Who Loves Me Always?” program is a Catholic religion curriculum for children in the second grade and for children preparing for the sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist. The Grade 2 program has as its emphasis two key truths of the faith: sacraments and commandments. These key truths form the unifying elements of the lessons. The material in each lesson revolves around fundamentals of our Faith stated in terms the children can understand and remember. Lessons include: God Shares His Goodness, God Always Loves Us, Jesus Our Teacher, Jesus Our Savior, The Church, We Meet Jesus in the Sacraments, We Receive New Life (Baptism), We Love God, We Love Others, Sin, God is Our Loving Father, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Jesus is the Bread of Life, Jesus Shares a Special Meal, The Mass, and more.

### Third Grade

The “Who is Our Example?” program is a Catholic religion curriculum for children in the third grade. This program is based on Sacred Scripture, the Second Vatican Council, and the writings and teachings of Saint Pope John Paul II. The Grade 3 program emphasizes in particular two truths of the Faith: Christ and the Church. These key truths form the unifying elements of the lessons. The material in each lesson revolves around fundamentals of our Faith stated in terms the children can understand and remember. Lessons include: The Mystery of God, Who We Are: Images of God, Acting as Images of God, Jesus: The Perfect Image of God, The Church: The Person of Christ, and more.

### Fourth Grade

The “We Follow Jesus” program is a Catholic religion curriculum for children in the fourth grade. This program is based on Sacred Scripture, the Second Vatican Council, and the writings and teachings of Saint Pope John Paul II. The Grade 4 program emphasizes in particular three truths of the Faith: God, grace, and commandments. These key truths form the unifying elements of the lessons. The material in each lesson revolves around fundamentals of our Faith stated in terms the children can understand and remember. Lessons include: God Created Everything (Creation, Angels), God Always Loves Us (Original Sin, God’s Merciful Love), Jesus Our Example, Jesus is With Us (The Church, Grace, Sacraments), and Acting As an Image of God (Commandments, Loving God and Others, Prayer), and more.

### Fifth Grade

The “Our Mission of Love” program is a Catholic religion curriculum for children in the fifth grade. This program is based on Sacred Scripture, the Second Vatican Council, and the writings and teachings of Saint Pope John Paul II. The Grade 5 program emphasizes in particular three truths of the Faith: Christ, Church, and the Sacraments. These key truths form the unifying elements of the lessons. The material in each lesson revolves around fundamentals of our Faith stated in terms the children can understand and remember. Lessons include: God the Father, Jesus:

God and Man, The Church, The Sacraments, Grace and Prayer, The Church Year and Sacramental, and more.

#### Sixth Grade

God's Merciful Love is our 6<sup>th</sup> grade Image of God curriculum. It has a special emphasis on Genesis and the creation of human persons by God in His image. Also, the Old Testament is presented as a history of God's merciful love toward people. God's merciful love draws good out of evil and prepares for the coming of Jesus Christ. The covenant between God and Israel is an expression of God's merciful love.

The aim is to teach that the Old Testament is an expression of God's merciful love and is fulfilled in Jesus Christ. And to help the students appreciate the main characters of the Old Testament and their struggles to do God's will.

#### Seventh Grade

Our seventh graders will be using a curriculum called "The Teen Timeline" (T3). It is the teen version of the revolutionary *Great Adventure Bible Timeline* system created by Jeff Cavins. In this DVD series the presenter makes the Bible come alive for Catholic teens in a way they can relate to. The series is interesting, educational, and fun. T3 teaches teens the Bible by showing the "big picture" of salvation history, in hopes they come to see the Bible as a relevant part of their lives.

#### Eighth Grade

Our eighth graders will use the middle school edition of Theology of the Body. Theology of the Body contains Saint Pope John Paul II's teaching on the significance of humanity created male and female in the image and likeness of God. It helps the student answer questions like who am I, are there consequences to my actions, how to deal with bullying, peer pressure and more. It uses a great mix of stories, real life examples, activities, prayers and references to the culture that are relevant to lives of today's youth.

#### Ninth & Tenth Grade

"Chosen" is a Confirmation program designed to offer teens a comprehensive journey through their Catholic faith and show them how the sacraments, prayer and discipleship are the keys to a happy life. Bringing together twelve of the most talented and inspiring presenters in the Church today, "Chosen" speaks the language of today's youth and it designed to reach through the cultural confusion of relativism and materialism. While many programs do a solid job of presenting facts and material, few can connect with heart and minds in the way that "Chosen" does, intellectually, emotionally and spiritually.

**To learn more about what your child is learning in Faith Formation, please contact  
Mary Willadsen at 952-446-1054 Ext: 25 or [stbonifacefaithformation@gmail.com](mailto:stbonifacefaithformation@gmail.com)  
Parents are more than welcome to review the textbooks and are invited to sit in on  
their child's Faith Formation class.**

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As a parish Faith Formation program in the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, through the office for the Protection of Children and Youth, we are required to present personal and internet safety class to all our students.

This is presently planned for some time in January 2018. You will be updated as that time approaches.

## **Protection of Children and Youth**

### **Protecting God's Children**