

## **PROGRAMS**

### **Grades 1 - 12**

#### **SACRAMENT PREPARATION**

Celebration of all sacraments from baptism through confirmation is the responsibility of each parish regardless of what school a child attends. Therefore, whether your child is in Catholic School, a Parish Religious Education program, or a home study program, you need to register through our office for sacramental preparation and celebration.

#### **First Reconciliation/First Communion – Grade 2**

Classroom preparation is done in second grade in both CCD and in the Catholic schools: first semester – Reconciliation, second semester – Communion. Catechists and parents help the children with lessons. Song, dramatization and other creative activities round out the classroom experience. Retreats and parent meetings are also a part of the process. Parent meetings are held on Wednesday evenings. Parents who have chosen to have their children celebrate these sacraments at an older age should contact Lynn Meyer. **First meeting: November 2, 2011.**

#### **Confirmation – Grade 9-12**

Confirmation preparation is designed for the responsible and mature young person ready to step up to a commitment to the Catholic faith. This process involves a retreat experience, 7 immediate preparation sessions, faith-enhancing service experiences, and one-to-one sharing with a sponsor. Confirmation preparation begins in January, a year and a half **before** the expected Confirmation date, with parent meetings, interviews and discernment. Once accepted into the process, candidates are invited to explore their faith and how it connects to relationships, family, school and life. Contact the youth minister for more information. **Students in grades 11 & 12, who have not been confirmed, should contact Kris Hansen, Pastoral Minister, 341-1617 x112.**

#### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

#### **C.C.D. (Cooperative for Christian Development) -Grades 1-6**

Parents and catechists unite in a cooperative effort to share our Catholic heritage with these younger parish members. Classroom sessions are held on Wednesday evenings, 6:30 – 7:45 p.m., Sept./Oct. through April. Each grade level uses a non-consumable textbook. Class work includes discussion, hands-on activities and prayer. Penance services, liturgies, service projects, and special sessions with Fr. Jerzy round out our calendar. **Opening Session: Sept. 28, 2011.**

#### **T.Y.M.E. (Total Youth Ministry Experience) -Grades 7-8**

This comprehensive youth ministry program seeks to foster the awareness of God in their lives, their participation in the larger Catholic community, and a strong sense of self-respect and service. The typical experience employs a combination of large and small group discussions and activities, icebreakers and games, prayer and meditation. Reflections/Rally, liturgical celebrations, service projects, Reconciliation and special events round out the calendar. T.Y.M.E. meets for sixteen sessions, Oct –April. Sessions are held on Wednesday evenings, 6:30-8:30p.m. Grade 7 meets in the St. Stephen school cafeteria and Grade 8 meets in the St. Joseph Parish Family Center. **Opening Session: Sept. 28, 2011, Mystery Trip**  **more information will follow.**

#### **High School -Grades 9-12**

Continuing faith formation for students in grades 9-12 is structured as 3-week workshops, each covering a different topic. Sessions are held **October through April** at various locations. Please check the High School registration form for specifics. Students in grades 9-12 (not in Catholic school programs) must/should sign up for a minimum of 2 workshops a year.

**Homestudy** – Contact the appropriate coordinator for more information. All curriculums must meet Diocesan expectations.