

**Catholic Area Parishes  
Religious Education  
Family Faith Formation Program  
Registration Packet**

Grades 7-11

- Parent Letter
- Registration Form
- Parent Assistance
- Teaching Assistance
- Schedule



## **St. Isidore the Farmer Catholic Area Parishes**

Father Bill Sprigler, Pastor

*Visitation Oratory, St. Malachy, St. Francis, St. Bridget and Sacred Heart*

508 13<sup>th</sup> Street North

Benson, MN 56215

Phone: (320) 842-4271 Fax: (320) 843-2264

Murdock location: (320) 875-2451

### **2011-12**

***Classes are held***

**Wednesday Evenings from 6:45 – 8:00 pm in BENSON**

### **PROGRAM COORDINATORS**

*Father Bill Sprigler, Pastor*

*Deacon Michael Thoennes, Faith Formation Director*

*Robbie Jennings, Religious Education Director*



**“Teach them to carry out everything I have commanded you.**

**And know that I am with you always.”**

**-Matthew 28:20**

**“Appreciate wisdom and discipline, understand words of intelligence; receive training in wise conduct, in what is right, just and honest; that resourcefulness, knowledge and discretion may be imparted to the young.”**

**-Proverbs 1:2-4**



August, 2011

Dear Parents of Grades 7-11,

Welcome to the 2011-2012 Grade 7-11 Catholic Area Parishes Religious Education Program. There are changes which you should be aware of as we embark on a new year of faith formation:

Grades 7-8 will meet weekly in Benson. In each class the parishes will be “mixed” so that we can begin forming a universal parish family. This year’s texts are from Loyola Press and called, “Christ, Our Life.” Grade 7’s topic for the year is: ***Jesus the Way, the Truth, and the Life.*** Grade 8’s topic for the year is: ***The Church, Then and Now;***

Grade 9 will meet weekly for the first semester and part of the second semester (second semester schedule will be set by December.) In the second semester, we will begin meeting every other week. During the “off weeks” the students will be meeting with their mentor/sponsor.

Grade 10 and 11 will meet every other week using the new text, “Confirmed in a Faithful Community- A Senior High Confirmation Process.” by Saint Mary’s Press; Confirmation has already been set by Bishop LeVoir for Sunday, March 27, 2011, at 11 AM in Benson. During the “off weeks” the students will be meeting with their mentor/sponsor.

What you need to do next:

- Register your child/ren by printing off the forms from the parish website and returning them along with full payment for your family. Your forms may be returned by mail, delivered to Parish Office or placed in the week-end collection basket. Only one registration form needs to be returned for the whole family but all must register.
- You must first be registered in the Parish in order to register for Religious Education. Please stop by the Parish Office if you haven’t registered or contact us to be registered.
- Look at the schedule carefully and post it. There may be changes in the schedule so watch the website ([www.catholicareaparishes.org](http://www.catholicareaparishes.org)) for updated schedules. (We will also email updates to you and have printed copies available as well.) **The website will also list the closing of classes due to weather.**

Sincerely,

Deacon Mike Thoennes

Family Formation Director

952.465.8293

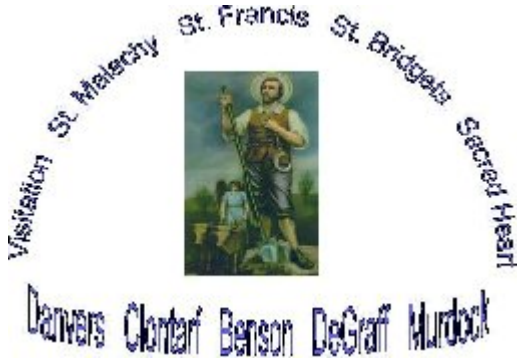
[dr.mike@tds.net](mailto:dr.mike@tds.net)

Robbie Jennings

Religious Education Director

320-842-4271

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## **FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION**

**Note: I need a new registration for everyone, even if registered in the past.)  
 (Only one registration page for family is necessary...)**

**Last Name of Child(ren):** \_\_\_\_\_

**PRINCIPAL CONTACT:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Child(ren) live with: Both Parents** \_\_\_\_\_ **Mother** \_\_\_\_\_ **Father** \_\_\_\_\_

**Family Last Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Father's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Mother's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **P.O. Box #** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State: MN** **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Phone #** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cell Phone #** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-Mail Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

*We always are in need of volunteers, please see next page*

Child Name	Grade	Birthday	Gender
1			
2			
3			
4			

**My family is registered at:**

St. Bridget (DeGraff)  
 St. Francis (Benson)  
 St. Malachy (Clontarf)  
 Sacred Heart (Murdock)  
 Not Registered

**Tuition Rate**                      **Number of Children**      **Total By Grade**

Grades 1, 3 through 10 is \$35 X \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

Out of Parish is \$50.00 per child

**Sacramental Programs:**

Grade 2 & 11 is \$50 X \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

Out of Parish is \$100.00

**Total tuition \$** \_\_\_\_\_ **In-parish family maximum is \$90.00**

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*\*\*The registration deadline for current parishioners is Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>. Return your registration and tuition payment to the address listed above, or place it in the week-end collection at Mass.**

# CATHOLIC AREA PARISHES RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

## Parent Assistance

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

I will be able to help with:

1. Substitute in an emergency:

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Be a teacher aide in the classroom:

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Help provide child care for parents  
attending adult education classes:

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Baby-sit for teachers and group leaders:

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Assist with special events, provide treats, etc:

\_\_\_\_\_

6. Join a group to pray for the success  
of our Religious Education Program:

\_\_\_\_\_



**\*\*Please help if you can\*\***

**A. If teaching Positions are still open, I am willing to teach:**

1. 1<sup>st</sup> Choice \_\_\_\_\_

2. 2<sup>nd</sup> Choice \_\_\_\_\_

3. 3<sup>rd</sup> Choice \_\_\_\_\_

**B. We always parents willing to be substitutes in an emergency. You will never be contacted more than three (3) times in a School Year. Please indicate Grade Level preference.**

Primary (1-3) \_\_\_\_\_

Intermediate (4-6) \_\_\_\_\_

Junior High (7-8) \_\_\_\_\_

High School (9-11) \_\_\_\_\_

Please contact Deacon Mike with any questions at: 952.465.8293!

# CODE OF CONDUCT FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STUDENTS

(This Code of Conduct is for all students [age-appropriate, of course])

Teachers of Religious Education perform an invaluable service to the parents of Catholic Area Parishes. Theirs is a time-consuming and challenging job, as you can well imagine. They need to cover volumes of material in just over one hour a week and it can be frustrating when students are disruptive. Your responsibility as non-teaching parents is to deliver and pick up your young person on time, to discuss with them the content covered in class, and to assure small group leaders of his/her consistent, appropriate behavior.

Our policy states that: **when the adult leader considers a student's behavior to be consistently off task, inappropriate or disrespectful, that student will receive ONE verbal warning. Any subsequent problem will be reported by phone to the Director of Faith Formation. Parents will be contacted before the next class period to choose one of three options:**

- A: Parents may volunteer to teach a group in which their young person is a participant.
- B: Parents will receive leader guides and training to home school their student. A follow-up quiz will be given by the Director of Religious Education.
- C: Parents will accompany their student to his/her class to assist with instruction and behavior.

**Parent or Guardian:** I agree that my young person(s) shall abide by the contract outlined above. I have reviewed it and discussed the contract with my child(ren) prior to signing this form. I agree that if my child(ren) fails to consistently abide by the Code or engages in a serious infraction of the Code, I will be notified immediately to choose from the options listed above.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Student:** I understand and agree to the **Catholic Area Parish's Religious Education Code of Conduct Contract**. I also understand that my parent(s) or guardian(s) will be notified at the time of any infraction following **ONE** verbal warning.

(Your signature must appear below in order to participate in the CAP Education Program.)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Adult leaders will review contract with students as needed.**

## "TRUE" CHRISTIAN SERVICE

- Do you:
1. Have the right to a supply of food rather than starve?
  2. Have a right to decent clothing instead of rags?
  3. Have the right to a warm home instead of living on the street?
  4. Have the right to care and medicine when you are sick?
  5. Have a right to an education instead of a life of ignorance?
  6. Have a right to the care and support of people who love you?

If you answer **YES** to any of the above questions, you're **RIGHT!** And every other human being has those same rights.

So ... Christian service is simple! It's an act of love, freely given, for another human being. And anything we do for another person, we do for God, since God's life is in all of us. Catholics of a bigger understanding in life. We are part of the flow of God's life which lives within us and our neighbor. It isn't a life devoid of others but deeply connected to others who are there to help us get to heaven!

So ... We do Christian Service because we would want the same done for us if we needed help... and we do it to be witness to the truth of the Christian message (*They'll know we are Christians by our love.*) ... and we do it because God gave us gifts and talents for only ONE reason: to share with others! (As St. Paul writes, our gifts are to build the community of God, the Church.

You, CAP youth are important members of the people of God. So get out there and build His Kingdom in His Name. And say the following prayer each time you go!

### A Prayer of Service

O God of all Goodness,  
Help us always to show kindness and generosity to everyone in need.  
Give us the courage and strength to work on behalf of the rights of others.  
Support us as we offer our love and friendship to strangers and work to unite all humankind.  
Strengthen us to serve you by serving others in both times of peace and times of adversity.  
Enable us to work for the freedom of those who have been deprived of their liberty and bring justice to those who are oppressed-spiritually, emotionally, or physically.  
Keep us safe from harm and open our hearts to others so that we may always live in the presence of Your love.  
Guide us with your Spirit as we seek to share your mercy and work for your justice.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord Amen.

P.S. Just a reminder that Christian service is done *WITH* parent supervision and *WITHOUT* pay. If someone has some good ideas where groups of kids could work together, please contact Deacon Mike at the parish office.

## **I. SERVICE WITHIN THE PARISH COMMUNITY**

Serve in liturgical ministry such as server, usher, singer, accompanist, or greeter; help plan or assist with parish social activities such as breakfast, dinners, or fund raisers; help with maintenance service such as cleaning the church, grounds, or shoveling snow; teach or assist in children's religious education programs, coach or help with children's athletic programs

Other ideas:

1. Babysit (free of charge) to give parents (not necessarily YOUR parents) a few hours of time together
2. Teach a child a simple prayer
3. Offer child care for group adult meetings
4. Help at a parish sale or dinner.
5. Straighten books in pews after Mass or remove gum from under the pews.
6. Help clean up the cemetery or church grounds or parking lot and sidewalks
7. Visit parish priest or invite him to your home; thank them for what they do
8. Accompany parish ministers of the Eucharist as they bring Communion to the Homebound
9. Join one of the choirs
10. Help with decorating the church especially during Christmas, Lent or Easter
11. Work at the parish festival
12. Hold a fund-raising project to purchase a piece of equipment needed by the parish
13. Find out what the parish organizations are doing and offer to help
14. Sponsor a food or clothing drive for the needy in the parish or RE program

## **II. SERVICE WITHIN THE NEIGHBORING COMMUNITIES**

Ideas: babysitting free for needy families visiting and helping the elderly and shut-ins, organizing and helping with neighborhood clean-up projects; or consider these:

1. Adopt an elderly person in the community that needs cleaning, yard work, run errands, visit them, write a letter, remember them on special occasions, such as birthdays, trips to the doctor, library, etc.
2. Prepare a meal or food for the sick
3. Work at Bloodmobile
4. Collect clothing for the poor
5. Organize recess activities for younger children or read stories to them at indoor recess time (i.e. Call a teacher and offer to help)
6. Invite some elderly person to lunch, or to special programs in which you are involved at school
7. Visit a sick parishioner, send get well cards; send a personal note to someone who is alone.
8. Clean houses for the sick, disabled, new parents, etc.

### III. SERVICE WITHIN THE LARGER COMMUNITY

Ideas: visit convalescent centers, nursing homes, hospitals

-collect and deliver food for the poor

-participating in peace and justice activities, pro-life rallies

1. Helping other in facilities such as children's hospitals, soup kitchens, etc.

2. Collect clothing for the poor or for Birthright

3. Help a mission organization of your choice. Gather a group of your friends or neighbors. Organize a carnival, game, or dinner to raise money for the missions. Write a letter to the mission organization explaining your project, and enclose your contribution

4. Participate in 30 hr. fast to raise money for local food shelf

\*\*\*As you can see, "True Christian Community Service" is simple! It's an act of love, freely given, for another human being...and anything that we do for another person with a joyful heart, we do for God, since God's life is in all of us.

***As a reminder, Christian Community Service is done WITH adult supervision, without pay.***

Use the attached form to reflect upon what you did and WHY you did it.

# Community Service Record

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Please read the description of the true Christian Community Service sheets and all the possible ways to share your time and talents. Each year, students in Grades 7-11 are required to complete the minimum number of service hours equal to your present grade level. For each service date, please fill in the reflection section and have it signed by a supervising ADULT or the person that you served. Please return these records as you complete your Community Service to your teacher.

Type of Community Service: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount of time: \_\_\_\_\_

Person who benefited from the service project: \_\_\_\_\_

Your reflection:

1. How do you think this service affected the lives of others?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. What were some thoughts and feelings you had about the experience?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. Was this mostly a positive or negative experience for you and why?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_