

Saint John
Vianney &
Holy Family

Faith Formation K-10

**Student & Parent
Handbook**

Saint John Vianney & Holy Family Faith Formation

Mission Statement

The mission of our Faith Formation program is to support children and their families as they grow in their Catholic faith through prayer, education, and experience in a safe environment.

Our program's goal is to provide quality education which facilitates:

- respect and responsibility for all of God's creation
- building community
- strengthening families
- participation in social justice
- celebrating faith through worship and the sacraments
- bringing youth closer to God
- practicing faith in daily life
- being a living witness of Jesus



WE, THE PEOPLE OF GOD

of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Winona,
are a community of hope, centered in Christ.
As members of the universal Church gathered around our bishop,
we strive to live out our gospel calling ever anew.

Devoted to the gospel we have received from generations past,
we seek to hand on a living faith for the generations to come.
Conscious of our own shortcomings and sin,
we trust in the power of Christ
to bring new things to birth through us.

Thus, our journey of faith
is a sharing in the dying and rising of Jesus.
Through the power of the Spirit,
we have the courage to risk everything
as together we labor to witness to the gospel,
celebrate the mysteries of faith, and reach out to others.

Called forth from the table of His Body as a faith community,
we shall create a future where all rejoice in God's gifts.
Rooted in the fields and towns of southern Minnesota,
we face the challenges of a changing world with love.
Convinced that we bring life-giving values
to the social and economic structures of our heartland,
we proclaim aloud our respect
for the sanctity of life, the family, and all creation.

Given at Winona As a Statement of Our Mission on September 24, 1994
~ Most Reverend John M. Quinn, Bishop of Winona

Dear Parents, Students, and Staff of St. John Vianney Faith Formation Program,

We have been commissioned by Jesus Christ to hand on the faith by teaching it to those who have been baptized. As you know, parents are the primary educators in the ways of faith but are assisted by the church community through the Faith Formation Program. This handbook is designed for the efficient operation of our Faith Formation Program. Many hours of thought and prayer have been put into this manual to help everyone better understand the Faith Formation Program policies and procedures.

Our catechists are dedicated not only to religious education and teaching of the faith; but they also have a desire to teach Christian attitudes and the living faith through virtues and a growth in holiness. Jesus is very alive in our curriculum, and there is a genuine love for every student that comes through our doors.

I believe this handbook clearly states policy and procedure, and should answer any question in these areas. Please read carefully and know that these guidelines are to help us operate in a Christian faith and life centered educational process. Thanks for all that you do in handing on the faith to the next generation and please keep us in your prayers as well as your children and family that we may grow in faith and holiness.

In Christ's love,

Father Andrew Beerman

Pastor

Dear St. John Vianney Faith Formation Family,

The staff, catechists and volunteers would like to thank you for choosing St. John Vianney Faith Formation for your children's religious education.

This handbook is given to you so that you might be able to understand the policies and guidelines that help us to govern St. John Vianney Faith Formation in the most efficient way. We hope that you will find it useful in answering questions that you might have over the coming weeks and months. Please feel free to call the faith formation office if there are questions or concerns that are not addressed in this handbook.

Our mission at St. John Vianney Faith Formation is to provide you and your children with a faith community which fosters a Christian environment. This mission is achieved through a cooperation effort of parents, catechists, and children. We hope we have your support and prayers as we help build a foundation in faith with your children at St. John Vianney Faith Formation.

You may call the faith formation office anytime to schedule a visit. We welcome your visits, calls or comments.

God's Blessings,

Tamarae Schmidt & Katie Stone

Absences

The Faith Formation Staff must receive verification by the parent/guardian in the event that the child must be excused for illness or appointment. Verification can be in writing, by email, by telephone, or in person. NO student will be permitted to leave the class without parental permission and the permission of the director of faith formation.

Absence Policy

Regular attendance is essential to a student's success in religious education. Our curriculum is taught in sequence, requiring the understanding of each concept in order of its presentation. Persistent absenteeism creates a general hardship for a student and is regarded as a very serious problem.

The following list of circumstances is the recognized excuses for Faith Formation class absence:

- a. personal illness
- b. family illness
- c. death in the family
- d. religious holiday

The student/parent is required to give advance notice of any type of absence.

Absence for such reasons as camping, vacations and non-school activities are discouraged. If a student has missed two or more faith formation classes, a conference with the DRE must take place.

Accidents / Illness

In case of accidents or illness at class, parents/guardians will be notified as soon as possible. If the parents/guardians can not be reached, the listed emergency number contact will be called. Please notify the faith formation office when emergency information changes. **Tamarae office: 235-5639** **Katie office: 235-9064**

Bi-Annual Assessments

We will be conducting bi-annual assessments to gauge students' knowledge of Catholic teachings, prayers and practices. In doing so, we can share your student's strengths and weaknesses. This will enable you as parents to support and guide them in their faith development.

Cancelation of Faith Formation Class

Cancelation of Faith Formation Class takes place only during circumstances such as **extreme weather, equipment failure, or public crisis**. The school board and administrators are aware of the hardship which can be caused by abrupt cancelation. Therefore, school will not be canceled unless a significant safety risk has been created. Early dismissal/cancelation of school will be determined by the Superintendent of Schools for the Fairmont Public School System. Every practical means is used to notify parents of a cancelation i.e. **Remind 101, Email, SJV Youth Facebook page, SJV Youth Twitter page, and via radio stations KSUM-AM 13.70 & KFMC-FM 106.5.**

Care of Building and Grounds

A school building is not a school until it is occupied by students. When a building becomes a school, it takes on character and meaning and expresses itself to the student body and visitors in relation to the respect it is given by the students in its appearance and daily care. We feel it is a matter of personal and school pride that each and every student make a commitment to do everything possible so that the appearance of our school and grounds expresses a positive message to everyone. This commitment includes using the common sense approach. Trash belongs in trash cans, food is to be eaten only in designated areas, gum and graffiti have no place on the floors or walls. The furniture and equipment in our school are for your use. Please take care of it!

Change of Address / Telephone

It is very important that every student maintain an up-to-date address, email address and telephone number record at the school office. Notify the school immediately if you have a change of address or telephone number during the school year.

Child Abuse

By law, school personnel are mandatory reporters of suspected child abuse or neglect situations. By definition, "...child abuse and neglect means the physical or mental injury, sexual abuse, negligent treatment or maltreatment of a child under the circumstances which indicate that the child's health or welfare is harmed or threatened thereby." (The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, P.L. 93427. January 31, 1974)



Diocese of Winona - Child Sexual Abuse Policy Information

The Diocese of Winona will provide a prompt, appropriate and compassionate response to reporters of sexual abuse of a child by any diocesan agent (employees, volunteers, vendors, religious or clergy). Anyone wishing to make a report of an allegation of sexual abuse should call the Victim Assistance Coordinator at 507-454-2270, Extension 255. A caller will be asked to provide his or her name and telephone number. Individuals are also encouraged to take their reports directly to civil authorities. The Diocese of Winona is committed to protecting children, young people and other vulnerable people in our schools, parishes and ministries. The diocesan policy is available on the diocesan web site at www.dow.org under the Safe Environment Program. If you have any questions about the Diocese of Winona's implementation of the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, please contact Peter Martin, at 507-858-1264, or pmartin@dow.org.

Circle of Grace

What is a Circle of Grace?

The Catholic Church teaches that God has created each of us as unique and special. Genesis 1:27 tells us that we are created “male and female in God’s image” and that God saw this as “very good.” In that goodness, we are meant to respect ourselves and everyone else as persons created and loved by God. Adults assist young people to recognize God’s love by helping them to understand that each of us lives and moves in a Circle of Grace. You can imagine your own Circle of Grace by putting your arms above your head then circle down in front of your body including side to side. This circle, front to back, holds who you are in your body and through your senses. It holds your very essence in mind, heart, soul, and sexuality.

Why is it important to help our young people understand the Circle of Grace?

God intends our relationships in life to be experiences of divine love. Respectful, nurturing, loving relationships increase our understanding of our own value and help us to love others. It is never too early to help young people understand how very special they are and how relationships in life are called to be sacred. Understanding this can help them to protect the special person they are and to be respectful of others. Adults, as they strive to provide a safe and protective environment, hold the responsibility to help young people understand and respect their own dignity and that of others. A truly safe and protective environment is one where young people recognize when they are safe or unsafe and know how to bring their concerns, fears, and uncertainties to the trusted adults in their lives.

How is the Circle of Grace Program different from other protection programs?

According to research, one in four girls and one in seven boys will be sexually abused by age eighteen.¹ Many protection programs focus on “stranger danger,” however, up to ninety percent of the time the perpetrator is a relative, family friend or other person known to the child/young person. Circle of Grace goes beyond just protection by helping young people understand the sacredness of who they are and how to seek help through their relationships with trusted adults.

Goal of the Circle of Grace Program - Grades K-12

The goal of the Circle of Grace program is to educate and empower children and young people to actively participate in a safe environment for themselves and others.

Coffee & Rolls Duty

As part of the Faith Formation curriculum, we participate in Coffee & Rolls duty after Mass on Sundays during the school year. Each parish group/ministry takes turns, so our faith formation classes will participate in the 2017/18 calendar. This is a good opportunity for our students to learn how to serve and get to know our parish community.

Communication with Parents & Students Grades K-6

The following communication tools will be used to keep you update-to-date and informed:

Website St. John Vianney/Holy Family	http://sjvhf.org/religious-ed-k-6th/
Remind K-6 SJV Faith Formation	remind.com/join/k6sj
Phone	235-5639
Email	sjv-tamarae@midconetwork.com

Communication with Parents & Students Grades 7-10

The following communication tools will be used to keep you update-to-date and informed:

Website St. John Vianney/Holy Family	http://sjvhf.org/religious-education-7th-10th/
7-10 Weekly Update	http://sjvhf.org/weekly-updates-7-10th/
Remind 7-10 SJV Faith Formation	remind.com/join/710sj
Facebook St John Vianney Youth	www.facebook.com/StJohnVianneyYouth/
Twitter page SJV Youth Ministry	https://twitter.com/SJVFairmont
Phone	235-9064
Email	sjvyouthministry@gmail.com

Curriculum K-6

Classes will meet on **Wednesday at 5:30-6:30 PM** in St. John Vianney School, September through April.

- The curriculum used will be the **“Image of God”** series, published by Ignatius Press.
- Sacramental preparation for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist are part of the Second Grade curriculum.
- Additional activities at the elementary level include service projects, prayer services, Faith Sharing Centers with parents for grades 1,2,4, and 5, a Seder Meal for grade 6, and Activity Day for grade K & 3, and Advent & Lenten Adventures.

Curriculum 7-10

Grade 7 & 8

Classes are held on Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:15 PM at St. John Vianney School, September through April.

Curriculum : *Theology of the Body / Encounter / Altaration by Ascension Press.*

- *God’s Word, Your World! (Reflections of the Sunday Readings for Teens)*
- Prayer services, service projects, Advent & Lenten Adventures, the Rosary & Eucharist celebrations will be included in the curriculum.

Grade 9 & 10

Classes are held on Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:15 PM at St. John Vianney School, September through April.

- Curriculum : “Chosen” by Ascension Press
- God’s Word, Your World! (Reflections of the Sunday Readings for Teens)
- Prayer services, service projects, Advent & Lenten Adventures
- Rosary & Eucharistic celebrations will be included in the curriculum.

10th Grade Confirmation Preparation includes choosing a sponsor, sponsor meetings, retreat, choosing a Confirmation saint name, and other events leading to the celebration of Confirmation.

Curriculum – Summer Faith Formation Program

Totus Tuus

(Latin for Totally Yours) is an energetic parish based summer catechetical program for all ages entering 1st grade through 12th grade. The program is led by a team consisting of college students and seminarians from the Winona Diocese. The 5 Pillars of Totus Tuus are: The Eucharist, Marian Devotion, Catechetical Instruction, Vocational Discernment, and Fun! The goal of Totus Tuus is to help our youth be Christ’s witnesses in the world around them.

1st - 6th Grade Program:

Monday- Friday -- 9:00 AM-2:30 PM at St. John Vianney School

The Grade School Program includes prayer, Mass, snacks, songs, games, skits, water activities, and more!

7th - 12th Grade Program:

Sunday-Thursday -- 7:30 PM-9:40 PM in the SJV Parish Center (upstairs)

The Junior / Senior High School Program includes prayer, discussions, snacks, fellowship, and fun activities!



Discipline Policy

At St. John Vianney, a Christian faith community, each person must be willing to accept responsibility for creating an atmosphere for teaching and learning. It is the right of every individual to develop his/her potential as a human person. It's likewise the responsibility of every individual to respect this right in others. The teaching and example of Jesus is a model for our behavior. It becomes necessary, however, to establish some rules to allow catechists and students to live and work together effectively and to promote the well-being of every individual. When a member of St. John Vianney Faith Formation community fails to show respect for self, for others, or for property, some action may be necessary in order to remind the offender that such behavior violates the rights and well-being of others.

Progressive Discipline:

1st : Catechist and Student

2nd: Catechist, Student and DRE

3rd : Parent + DRE + Catechist + Student meeting

GOAL: Respect for authority, respect for all students, and regard for property should govern pupil behavior at all times.

Students are expected to behave according to the Ten Commandments, The Beatitudes, The Golden Rule, and all applicable federal, state, and local laws. It is not possible to include every single behavior expectation. The key word is Respect; respect of self, for others, and for property.

Dress Code

Students are encouraged to dress comfortably with clothing that is practical, simple and modest. Tennis shoes are the best footwear because they are versatile. Clothing with inappropriate pictures or sayings will not be allowed. Hats are not permitted to be worn inside the school building during regular faith formation class hours or scheduled activities. Students whose appearance is deemed inappropriate by the catechist/DRE will be asked to contact their parent/guardian that same day to have the clothing corrected. During warm weather the students may wear shorts. The length of the shorts needs to be at the student's fingertips when they stand with their arms at the side and shoulders relaxed. **Youth Mass / Eucharistic Adoration Attire:** Pants or jeans, shirts/sweaters/sweatshirts with minimal and/or no writing. No leggings, tank tops or exposed midriff allowed. Thank you for being reverent in church.

Drop off / Pickup & Supervision Policy

Grades K-6 Faith Formation Parents - K-6th graders will be supervised for recess from 5:00 - 5:30 pm on the Wednesdays we have classes. After 6:30 pm , all K-6 youth need to wait by the front door until their ride comes.

Please note: There is no supervision outside of class time after 5:30 pm.

Grades 7-10 Faith Formation Parents - We ask you to drop off your child(ren) no earlier than 6:50 pm and pick up your child(ren) no later than 8:25 pm.

Emergency Information

In case of emergency, each student is required to have on file at the Faith Formation office the following information:

1. Parent(s) or guardian(s) name(s)
2. Complete and up-to-date address
3. Home phone and parent(s)/guardian(s) work phone
4. Emergency phone number of friend or relative

Faith Formation K-10, SJV School & Hope Shop Monthly Food Collection

Each class will take turns distributing brown paper grocery bags, with a list of needed items, on the 2nd Saturday & Sunday of each month at the end of Mass.

The classes haul the filled bags on the 3rd Saturday & Sunday of the month to the Hope Shop at the end of Mass.

Hope Shop Collection Schedule will be posted on weekly updates, monthly newsletters, and sjvhf.org website.

Fundraising

Pick a Day, Pray and Pay

We have a new fundraiser to support our Youth Ministry Program – DOW Summer Camps and other activities. The purpose of this fundraiser is to help supplement student trip costs. The duration of Pick a Day, Pray & Pay is 120 days or 4 months. Please click on the links below to see how the program works and how you can help!

Semi-Annual Bake Sales (Fall & Spring)

Bake Sales proceeds will be reserved to pay for chaperone costs for the summer camps.

Schwan's Cares

Schwan's Home Delivery offers 350 delicious foods, flash-frozen at the peak of freshness and delivered to your door. Through Schwans-Cares, you can order from Schwan's and help SJV Youth Ministry to raise money for summer camps and other YM activities.

- Schwans-Cares.com
- Campaign ID: 33327
- 5% profit

Butterbraids (Spring)

This opportunity is for individual fundraising. Students can raise \$5 per braid sold. DRE will use Sign-up Genius to schedule after Mass sales. Students are encouraged to sell outside of the church setting. **It is the students responsible to take the orders / receive payment at the time of the order / delivery of the product.**

Harassment Policy

St. John Vianney Faith Formation is committed to the Gospel Way of Life. The Gospel Way means reverence and respect. Our faith formation program confirms that everyone has a right to be respected and safe. Any form of intimidation, violence, harassment, or bullying will not be allowed. This includes racial, religious, verbal, physical or sexual harassment or violence.

Behaviors that violate reverence and respect may include, but are not limited to: 1) name calling, jokes or rumors; 2) pulling on clothing; 3) graffiti, notes, writing in textbooks; 4) hurtful words about weight, complexion, height, ability, status; 5) unwelcome touching of a person or clothing; 6) any words or actions that make you feel uncomfortable, embarrass you, hurt your feelings, or make you feel bad; 8) disparaging remarks to a person about gender or sexual orientation; 9) retaliation; 10) mockery; 11) laughing at another's mistakes; 12) falsely blaming. If any words or actions make one feel uncomfortable or fearful, you need to tell your catechist, your director of religious education, another school staff member or trusted adult. The issue will be handled by the person to whom it was reported. If not resolved, a written report will be given to the pastor. To the extent reasonable, the complaint will be kept private. SJV Faith Formation takes seriously all reports of racial, religious, verbal, physical, or sexual harassment. It will take appropriate actions based upon this report.

Mass Journals (Grades 7-9)

As a member of the church we are all asked to be active members. As part of our Faith Formation curriculum, we ask you to attend weekend Masses throughout the year. As a student of Faith Formation you are to journal **EIGHT (8) weekend Masses**.

Mass Journals must include:

- The date and time of Mass
- Which Church you attended
- A short reflection of a reading, the homily, and/or the music
(**at least one paragraph in length**)
- Document how you can actively live out your faith based on the Mass's message



Photo Policy

Parent permission to photograph and/or video their children. I grant St. John Vianney Catholic Church, its employees, and volunteers:

- the right to photograph or video my child(ren) in connection with church-related events and activities.
- to use and publish any photo or video of my child(ren) in print and electronically.
- may use such photographs and video of my child(ren) with or without their name and for any lawful purpose, including for such purposes as publicity, illustration, advertising, and web content.

Photo / Video release form will be completed on an annual basis.

Sacramental Preparations

Sacraments in order and preferred age:

- Baptism (infant)
- Reconciliation (2nd grade)
- Eucharist (2nd grade)
- Confirmation (9th & 10th grade)

Typically, children who have been baptized receive the sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist during their second grade year. If a child has not been baptized, they need to do so before receiving Reconciliation. If a child has been baptized but are third grade or older, they will have to set up a plan with the director about when they can receive the necessary sacraments. Confirmation preparations begin in 9th grade and are completed at the end of 10th grade. Sacramental preparations are a part of the Faith Formation Program but also include activities outside of class time, such as Centers (Reconciliation & Eucharist) and retreats (Eucharist and Confirmation). According to Diocesan policy, youth must be in the Faith Formation Program an entire year prior to enrolling in the sacramental program.

Safe Driver Training

Catholic Mutual has developed "Be Smart - Drive Safe" to provide a convenient defensive driving course to aid in the reduction of auto accidents and injuries. This "online" course is offered at no cost and provides multiple benefits to any employee or volunteer who drives on behalf of the Church. See Appendix A for more details.

Service Projects

- Coffee & Rolls Duty
- Baby Bottle Campaign (October)
- Hope Café – Monthly Hot Meal for the Community
- Hope Shop Monthly Food Collection Food Collection for the poor and needy
- Kids Against Hunger Concert – January
- Kids Against Hunger Food Pack – February @ SJV School
- Life Chain
- Treat or Eat Food Collection – volunteer parent drivers (see Safe Driver Training)

Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment is the unwanted or uninvited sexual behavior of one person toward another. Sexual harassment is a form of violence and is not allowed at St. John Vianney Faith Formation Classes. Sexual harassment can be in the form of words, touch, teasing, threats, or other behavior. Anyone might be the victim--boy or girl, young or old. Harassment should be reported immediately to your catechists, director of religious education, a priest or to a trusted adult.

Telephone

Important messages will be delivered to children and catechists immediately; otherwise, messages will be relayed in a timely manner. The office telephone is a business phone and is to be used with discretion. Students are not allowed to use the phone to make personal arrangements (such as requesting permission to go to another student's home after class). The faith formation office is equipped with a voice mail answering system so individuals may contact the school anytime to leave messages. **Cell phone usage is not allowed during class hours.**

Valuables

Common sense and consideration is the best guide in determining whether or not to bring personal possessions to school. The faith formation staff and volunteers can't be responsible for valuables which students bring to class. It is recommended that students leave all valuables at home. Electronic games, ipods etc. must be left at home.

Vandalism

Our school and school equipment is parish and state property. Willfully damaging or destroying this property is cause for immediate suspension and possible expulsion. If a student accidentally causes damage, they should report it to their catechist immediately so that the damage is not misconstrued as vandalism.

VIRTUS Training

Protecting God's Children® Program

The National Catholic Risk Retention Group, Inc., is pleased to present a brief introduction to our Protecting God's Children program. This "Flash" presentation exemplifies the information provided in our child sexual abuse awareness sessions for adults. If you have attended an awareness session, this presentation will repeat some of the information presented in our two awareness videos: *A Time to Protect God's Children* and *A Plan to Protect God's Children*. Please note. If you are required to complete online training, the material on this page is merely a preview and does not count for your required training. You'll need to log into your account in order to access your required online training.

To preview the Protecting God's Children awareness session, please use this link below to start the 11-minute presentation.

<https://www.virtusonline.org/virtus/pgc5.swf> And, either way, please visit our website frequently. New risk management information is added each week, with an emphasis on articles and interactive features designed to increase the public awareness about child sexual abuse, and to provide adults with the knowledge and tools they need to help prevent and, if necessary, to respond appropriately to child sexual abuse.

Who has to attend the Protecting God's Children awareness programs? There are three categories of people who are required to attend an awareness session. They are: 1) All clergy, 2) all employees of the Diocese of Winona and their parishes and schools, 3) all volunteers who have regular contact with children.

What does "regular contact with children" mean? Regular contact means planned and on-going contact with children, vulnerable adults or the elderly. These are the critical "third party eyes" we need to help us spot others who put our children at risk.

Volunteering

Ways to volunteer:

- Baker
- Catechist
- Catechist assistant
- Child Care
- DRE Assistant
- Driver for event or service project
- Prayer Listener

All of our volunteers , who work with children, are required to have:

- Background Checks (every 5 years)
- VIRTUS (Safe Environment) Training (once)
- Safe Driver Training (when applicable)
- Signed Volunteer Code of Conduct (annually)

Youth Ministry Program

“Camp Summit” Summer Camp (will be in Grades 6 / 7 / 8 in the Fall)

Camp Summit is a Catholic adventure camp featuring prayer experiences and activities such as bonfires, high ropes course, teambuilding, Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, dynamic speakers, confession, small group discussions, games, and more. Middle school students from all over the Diocese of Winona come to camp to witness Christ through prayer, each other, and the high-energy atmosphere. Camp Summit takes place at Eagle Bluff Environmental Learning Center (28097 Goodview Drive, Lanesboro, MN 55949)

EPIC Senior High Youth Group

(EPIC - Everything's Possible in Christ)

We invite our 9th/10th/11th/ 12th to join us for fellowship, activities, service projects and fun! ***This group meets once a month – 2nd Sunday @ 6:00 pm in the Parish Center – Second Floor.*** For more information, please call Katie Stone @ 235-9064 or email: sjvyouthministry@gmail.com

Fairmont Students for Life Club

Student activism has been vital in the success of many social movements throughout history and the pro-life movement depends on successful youth organizing. Your peers are forming their views on abortion and other key issues; and now is the time to change hearts and minds. You can speak to your fellow students as the face of the pro-life movement at your school. A successful pro-life group can make a significant impact on the lives of students at your school. ***This club meets every Friday morning at 7:30 am in Mr. Bart Franta's classroom at Fairmont Jr/Sr High School.***

Kids Against Hunger Concert & Food Pack – Annual Events

- Local community youth show off their talents @ the Annual “Kids Against Hunger” Benefit Concert – January. We encourage our students to join in the fun and represent SJV!
- Local businesses and churches participate in the Annual “Kids Against Hunger” Food Pack – February. SJV Teams are amongst the regular participants in this great cause. SJV School will be the location for the Food Pack!

March for Life

The Minnesota Pro Life community gather at the Capitol every Jan. 22 to march on the Capitol grounds and to speak out publicly against abortion; to influence our legislators to support pro-life legislation; and to remember all the unborn babies who have been aborted, and the mothers who have been wounded physically, emotionally and spiritually. We gather to demonstrate to others what it means to be pro-life. For those who would like to join us – the Diocese of Winona provides coach buses at a cost of around \$15 a person (to cover the cost of the bus.)

Prayer Team

We would like to start a Faith Formation Prayer Team.

- Purpose of the team: to pray for our fellow students, their families, our parish, our community and country as well as any other requests.
- Team: Meets 15 minutes before faith formation classes begin - to pray for prayer requests received and along with other ongoing prayers.
- Prayer Request Cards: There will be a table at the end of the hallway near the music room on the 2nd Floor. Blank Prayer Cards will be available as well as a box to submit your prayer requests

Steubenville North Youth Conference (For Youth who have completed grades 8-12)

A Steubenville Catholic Youth conference is a weekend program for high school students, from incoming freshmen through just graduated seniors. It is authentically Catholic, an oasis from the clamor of the world, a place to connect with the God of the universe; it is inspirational, high energy, fun and funny.

Supporting our Seminarians

We commit our Faith Formation to support our seminarians, on a regular basis, with: letters of support, funny videos and care packages. Our faith formation classes will help with this effort as well as our EPIC Senior High Youth Group

Teen Space

SJV Youth Ministry program will have a "Teen Space" located on the 2nd Floor of the Parish Center. EPIC Senior High Youth Group will use as their meeting space during the school year. We are currently seeking donations for new or used TV, Foosball Table, movies, etc. We will be looking for volunteers to help chaperone when the Teen Space is in use.

Websites/Resources

www.sjvhf.org	Saint John Vianney & Holy Family
www.dow.org	Diocese of Winona
www.usccb.org	US Conference of Catholic Bishops
w2.vatican.va/content/vatican/en.html	Vatican - The Holy See
wordonfire.org/resources/video/	Word on Fire – Bishop Robert Baron
ascensionpresents.com/videos_categories/fr-mike-schmitz/	Ascension Presents – Fr. Mike Schmitz
ascensionpresents.com	Ascension Presents - Jeff Cavins, Leah Darrow, Fr. Josh,
http://www.americancatholic.org/	American Catholic
http://catholic.com	Catholic Answers
http://www.catholic.org/	Catholic Online
http://dynamiccatholic.com/	Dynamic Catholic
http://lifeteen.com/blog/	Life Teen
http://ucatholic.com/	U Catholic
http://reallifecatholic.com/	Real Life Catholic – Chris Stefanick
http://www.ewtn.com/	EWTN – Catholic Global Network
www.virtusonline.org	Virtus Online
safekids.com/kids-rules-for-online-safety/	Safe Kids.com - online safety

Additional Information

The 5 Precepts of the Catholic Church

The precepts of the Church are duties that the Catholic Church requires of all the faithful. Also called the commandments of the Church, they are binding under pain of mortal sin, but the point is not to punish. As the Catechism of the Catholic Church explains, the binding nature "is meant to guarantee to the faithful the indispensable minimum in the spirit of prayer and moral effort, in the growth of love of God and neighbor." If we follow these commands, we'll know that we're headed in the right direction spiritually. This is the current list of the precepts of the Church found in the Catechism of the Catholic Church. Traditionally, there were seven precepts of the Church; the other two may be found at the end of this list.

The Sunday Duty

The first precept of the Church is "You shall attend Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation and rest from servile labor." Often called the Sunday Duty or the Sunday Obligation, this is the way in which Christians fulfill the Third Commandment: "Remember, keep holy the Sabbath day." We participate in the Mass, and we refrain from any work that distracts us from a proper celebration of Christ's Resurrection.

Confession/Reconciliation

The second precept of the Church is "You shall confess your sins at least once a year." Strictly speaking, we only need to take part in the Sacrament of Confession if we have committed a mortal sin, but the Church urges us to make frequent use of the sacrament and, at a minimum, to receive it once each year in preparation for fulfilling our Easter Duty.

The Easter Duty

The third precept of the Church is "You shall receive the sacrament of the Eucharist at least during the Easter season." Today, most Catholics receive the Eucharist at every Mass they attend, but it wasn't always so. Since the Sacrament of Holy Communion binds us to Christ and to our fellow Christians, the Church requires us to receive it at least once each year, sometime between Palm Sunday and Trinity Sunday (the Sunday after Pentecost Sunday).

Fasting and Abstinence

The fourth precept of the Church is "You shall observe the days of fasting and abstinence established by the Church." Fasting and abstinence, along with prayer and almsgiving, are powerful tools in developing our spiritual life. Today, the Church requires Catholics to fast only on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, and to abstain from meat on the Fridays during Lent. On all other Fridays of the year, we may perform some other penance in place of abstinence.

Supporting the Church

The fifth precept of the Church is "You shall help to provide for the needs of the Church." The Catechism notes that this "means that the faithful are obliged to assist with the material needs of the Church, each according to his own ability." In other words, we don't necessarily have to tithe (give ten percent of our income), if we can't afford it; but we should also be willing to give more if we can. Our support of the Church can also be through donations of our time, and the point of both is not simply to maintain the Church but to spread the Gospel and bring others into the Church, the Body of Christ.

Two More...

Traditionally, the precepts of the Church numbered seven instead of five. The other two precepts were:

- To obey the laws of the Church concerning Matrimony.
- To participate in the Church's mission of Evangelization of Souls.

Both are still required of Catholics, but they are no longer included in the Catechism's official listing of the precepts of the Church.

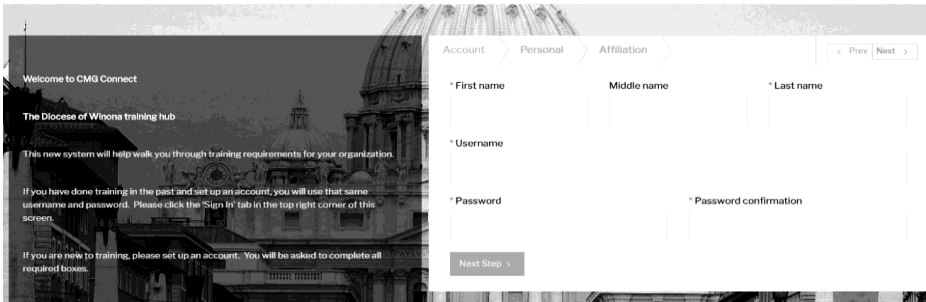
Appendix A

Defensive Driving Training

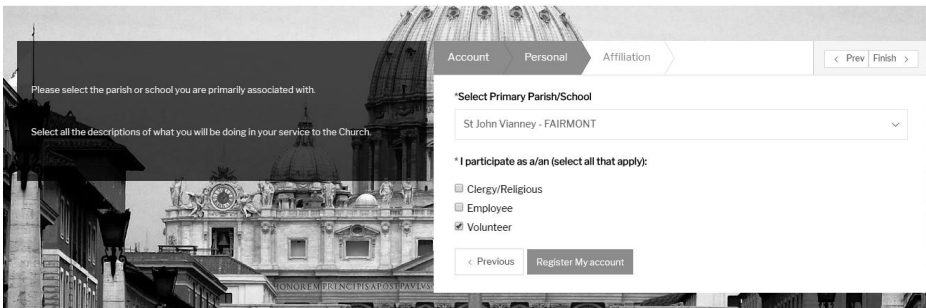
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kathleen brown
St John Vianney

Required Trainings

Resources



Defensive Driving Curriculum

Never Expires

A 20 minute training video on safe driving.

In Progress