



St. Isidore the Farmer Area Faith Community

Father Jeremy Kucera

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

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St. Isidore the Farmer Area Faith Community Family Faith Formation Program

Registration Packet

2017-2018

Grades 1 – 6

Parish/Home-based Program

&

Grades 7-11

Enclosed in this packet:

- Parent Letter**
- Registration Form** (sign and return with payment)
- Code of Conduct** (students and parents must sign and return)
- Schedule**

All information also available at stisidorethefarmerafc.org under the faith formation tab

2016-17

Classes are held:

Wednesday Evenings from 6:45 – 8:00 pm at Benson High School and Middle School

PROGRAM COORDINATORS

Father Jeremy Kucera, Pastor

Cyndi Stifter, Faith Formation 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

July 2017

Dear Parents of Grades 1-6,

We are excited to continue using the Family Faith Formation Program for children in Grades 1 through 6. How does it work? Parents, children and the parish work in partnership to build and maintain strong Catholic families. The Church's shift in direction is based on the following critical, but long-neglected principles, namely:

- A. As a parent or guardian, yours is the God-given, primary role in nurturing the faith life of your children. At the final baptism blessing, parents are reminded that they are the first and primary teachers of the faith;
- B. As members of the human family, you and your children will always share the deep internal longing to know God better. This opportunity in religious education nourishes that longing to share the Good News and is meant to foster your relationship with Jesus.
- C. Encountering God in the practice of faith with your children in the surest way to find meaning in your own spiritual life, to reminded of your own life in Christ Jesus, and the Holy Spirit;
- D. When the church of the home and the church of the parish work together, LASTING faith formation results.
- E. In our society today often the Catholic family has lost its Catholic Culture. The stability of the local church community depends upon the building blocks of Catholic family life to fulfill its mission, to make Jesus Christ known and loved both individually and in the world.

In addition to fun, quality time with your children, and the opportunity for personal faith growth, other practical benefits include:

1. Completing faith formation activities on your family's schedule.
2. Only one trip per month into Benson on Wednesday evenings (unless of course, you have other children in the Grades 7, 8, 9, 10, or 11 programs.)

What you need to do next:

- Register your child/ren by returning the enclosed forms or printing 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. . If tuition is a financial hardship, please contact Cyndi to arrange financial assistance or set up a payment plan. No student will be turned away from faith formation because of inability to pay tuition.
- You must first be registered in the Parish in order to qualify for in parish pricing for Faith Formation. 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.stisidorethefarmerafc.org) and the bulletin for updated schedules.
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Continuing this year:

We will be using a School Reach program that will contact families via telephone, text or e-mail with important information. This could include changes in schedules, closings for weather or other reasons, reminders of important dates. Please fill out the form to update any contact information so you can know what is happening as soon as possible.

July 2017

Dear Parents of Grades 7-11,

Welcome to the 2016-17 Grades 7-11 St. Isidore the Farmer Area Faith Community Faith Formation Program.

Grades 7-11 will meet weekly in Benson at the Benson High School. In each class the parishes will be “mixed” so that we can continue forming a universal parish family. This year’s texts include Loyola Press’ 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 complete a program called *Alpha for Teens* the first half of the year and the second half will be *Theology of the Body for Teens*. Both are courses that help the students to study and grow in their personal faith relationships with Christ and others.

Confirmation preparation is a two year process and includes grades 10 and 11. Confirmation has already been set by Bishop LeVoir for Sunday, April 8, 2017 for those in the 11th grade. Both grades will be using a program this year called “Chosen” by Ascension Press. They will also be meeting with Fr. Jeremy regularly in class and in prayer and Reconciliation. The students of both grades will be meeting with their mentor/sponsor periodically throughout the year as well.

What you need to do next:

- Register your child/ren filling out the enclosed forms or 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. If tuition is a financial hardship, please contact Cyndi to arrange financial assistance or set up a payment plan. No student will be turned away from faith formation because of inability to pay tuition.
- You must first be registered in the Parish in order to register for in parish tuition for Faith Formation. 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.stisidorethefarmerafc.org) and the bulletin for updated schedules.

Continuing this year:

We will be using a School Reach program that will contact families via telephone, text or e-mail with important information. This could include changes in schedules, closings for weather or other reasons, reminders of important dates. We will be using the information on your registration forms for these contact numbers. If you wish to use different contacts please let us know.

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR FAITH FORMATION STUDENTS

(This Code of Conduct is for all students [age-appropriate, of course])
2017-2018

Teachers of Faith Formation perform an invaluable service to the parents of St. Isidore the Farmer Area Faith Community. 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 Faith Formation.
- 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 **St. Isidore the Farmer Area Faith Community Faith Formation 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 St. Isidore the Farmer Area Faith Community Faith Formation Program.)

Signature: _____ Grade: _____ Date: _____

Adult leaders will review contract with students as needed.