

CCD Parent Information Packet
1st Year Confirmation Prep
(Grade 6)
September, 2018

On behalf of Fr. Farrell, our Catechists and myself, I would like to welcome back all CCD students and their families. I hope that the information contained in this Parent Information Packet will be useful to you as we proceed throughout the school year. If at any time you have any questions or concerns about our CCD program, I invite you to give me a call at 345-1658. We are looking forward to another successful year of learning the wonders of the Catholic Faith.

-- Anne Fackler
CCD Coordinator

6th Grade CCD is a brand new program--6th grade CCD is no longer a 26 week, 1 hour and 15 minute class offered on Monday evenings. 6th grade is now a 8 week, 2 ½ hour class offered on Sunday afternoons. 6th Grade is now considered the first year of our new 3-year Confirmation program. Classes will still be offered from October – March, each school year. All 24 segments of the Chosen Confirmation program will be taught prior to a student being confirmed in the 8th grade. What's the catch? Why only 8 weeks? Parents are now required to attend all 8 sessions with their students!

Mandatory Parent Attendance—As a part of this new 3-year Confirmation program, parent attendance is **mandatory for all 8 class sessions**. While both parents are invited and encouraged to attend with their student, only one parent is required to attend each time. It would be wonderful if parents could split the responsibility so that students would have an opportunity to experience the Chosen program with both of their parents. Everyone will receive a copy of the 6th grade attendance policy at registration. Please be sure your read and understand the specific rules for your student's grade. As always, please contact Anne Fackler 345-658 if you have an extenuating circumstance and we will try to work something out for you.

Class Dates & Time—All Classes will be from 1:00 – 3:30 p.m. on 8 random dates throughout the school year. Because 6th grade is a brand new program this year, we have slightly different dates and times from all others grades. Please be sure to follow just the dates and times listed on the 6th grade schedule, only. You will receive your official 6th grade schedule when you register your student for CCD class.

Why must Parents attend each week? Our number one goal for all our CCD students is for them to be lifelong Catholics who receive the Eucharist and Penance regularly. Statistics show that only about 50 % of all CCD and Catholic school students attend Mass each week. By college, 80% of students no longer practice their faith at all. However, in parishes where the CCD programs have parents attend class with their children Mass attendance has skyrocketed. Simple put, we feel 8 classes with you is far more effective then 26 classes without you.

Confirmation requires 3 years of CCD—This new Confirmation program is for 3-years. Students must attend our program for 6th, 7th & 8th grade to be confirmed at the end of 8th grade. Our current 7th & 8th grade students will complete Confirmation preparation in 2 years.

Sacraments occur at Home Parish, only-- In order to receive the sacraments of First Penance, First Communion or Confirmation with the other CCD and school students at St. Monica Parish, your family must be registered members of the parish by the time of CCD Registration. Later parish registrations will result in private celebrations of the sacraments or will occur at a diocesan Mass at St. Augustine's Cathedral.

Entrance to the Building—Each week the door facing the rectory garage on the west side of the school will be the only entrance and exit to the building. The front school lobby and entrance by the gym will always be locked.

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CCD Teachers for 2018-2019—Here are the names of our CCD teachers and our classroom number. Please take a moment to introduce yourself to your child's teacher. They want to know all their students' parents.

6th Grade Confirmation

Kathleen Hess, Melanie Saliwanchik,
Mary Anne Simmering

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Discipline Policy—Each teacher will set individual rules for their classroom. We would like to remind students and parents that we are guests in St. Monica's School classrooms. Please remind your student not to open or touch anything inside the desks or lockers. Writing on the boards is forbidden, except for teachers!

Safety Policy—For safety reasons, we must keep the building locked during CCD classes. Doors will be unlocked at 12:30 p.m. and will be locked again at 1:15 p.m. They will remain locked until 3:00 p.m. when the 7th and 8th grade classes are dismissed. If you need to enter the building between 1:15 and 3:00 p.m., we will have a parent on duty to let you in.

Inclement Weather—If class needs to be cancelled for any reason, Anne Fackler will email all parents 45 minutes or more before class begins. Please make sure the email address you give Anne Fackler on your "CCD Registration Parent Checklist" is one you access and check regularly.

Textbooks—You should have received your textbooks at CCD registration. We will be using *The Chosen* book and video series from Ascension Press for all Confirmation prep (6th, 7th and 8th grade). If we ran out of books at registration, we have ordered you a copy. You should receive your books by the second week of class, depending on the speed of the publisher. These books are for you to keep and will be used for all 3 years. If you lose your book, you may purchase another book from Anne Fackler for an additional \$25.

Homework—If you miss class, please speak to your child's teacher. They will give you any missed material so your child can catch up with your assistance at home. Getting too far behind can be very discouraging for your child.

Touching Safety Program— This year's Touching Safety classes will be offered during our regularly scheduled CCD class. On Sunday, January 27th, 45 minutes of class will be dedicated to teaching Touching Safety. On that Sunday, the 6th grade Confirmation students and parents will be taught as usual. From 1:00 – 2:10 p.m. we will cover the first 2 DVD segments of the day. From 2:15 p.m. – 3:00 p.m., the Touching Safety Program will be taught. Boys and girls will be taught separately. Parents and those who wish to opt-out will have a class on Plenary Indulgences. From 3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. parents and all students will return to room 115 for the last DVD segment of the day. Any parents who would prefer to attend the Touching Safety Classes are welcome to do so.

Even though parents will attend every class, we are still required by the diocese to get your signed consent to teach your child the Touching Safety Program. These "Opt-out forms" will be filled out at CCD registration/parent meetings. If at any time you wish to change the "opt-out" choice you selected at CCD registration, please contact Anne Fackler in person or at 345-1658 ASAP. Verbal changes or requests written on plain paper will be denied. All changes must be done on an official "opt-out" form. Anne Fackler will always have these forms available for you to fill out at CCD.

If you have any further questions, you may refer to your Touching Safety Memo received at registration or call Anne Fackler at the number above to obtain a copy of the Touching Safety Guide. Additional information may be found at www.virtus.org.