

CCD Parent Information Packet
1st Year Confirmation Prep
(Grade 6)
September, 2022

On behalf of Fr. Homic, 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 FIRST YEAR OF Confirmation prep--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 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 September – 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 weeks for the last 30 minutes of class. That is from 2:45 – 3:15 p.m.

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 their 30 minute session, only one parent is required to attend each time. It would be wonderful if parents could split the responsibility so that both parents could have the opportunity to experience the Chosen program. Everyone will receive a copy of the 6th grade Student/Parent Schedule and our attendance policy the first day of CCD. Please be sure you 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.

Priest Visits—This year Fr. Homic and Fr. Nightingale will be teaching all the 6th - 8th grade CCD and homeschool students and their parents for the last 30 minutes of class on 3 specific dates. A complete schedule is in your blue folder. As we will be a very large crowd, we will meet in the cafeteria. Fr. Homic is hoping this time together will have us meet one another and help him get to know the Confirmation students well before their pastor interview at the end of 8th grade.

Class Dates & Time—All Classes will be from 1:15 – 3:15 p.m. on 8 random dates throughout the school year. 6th, 7th & 8th grade will all have their own individual calendars. Your official 6th grade schedule is in your student's folder.

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 parents are a part of the CCD program, Mass attendance has skyrocketed. Simply put, we feel 8 classes with you is far more effective than 26 classes without you.

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.

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. We are not skipping the Faith and Life 6th grade program. The 6th grade book will be taught in small sessions during 6, 7, & 8th grade.

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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.

CCD Teachers for 2022-2023—Here are the names of our CCD teachers/aides and our classroom numbers. Please take a moment to introduce yourself to your child's teacher. They want to know all their students' parents.

6 th Grade Students	Janet Wheeler, Carly Koneska	112
6 th Grade Parents	Anne Fackler	113

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!

Security Policy—For safety reasons, we must keep the building locked during CCD classes. Doors will be unlocked at 12:45 p.m. and will be locked again at 1:25 p.m. They will remain locked until 2:40 p.m. for parents to arrive. If you need to enter the building between 1:25 and 2:40 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 Form is one you access and check regularly.

Textbooks—You will receive your textbooks at our first CCD class. We will be using the *Chosen* book and video series from Ascension Press for all Confirmation prep (6th, 7th and 8th grade). All 6th grade families should now have both the Chosen Student Textbook and a Parent guide. If we ran out of books during registration, we have ordered you a copy. You should receive your books by the second session of class, depending on the speed of the publisher. Both these books are for you to keep and will be used over again for **all 3 years**. A lost student book can be replaced for \$25. A lost Parent Guide can be replaced for \$10. Contact Anne Fackler if you need new books.

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. Please read the absence policy in this blue folder. If you choose to make-up a missed class, there is no need to do the homework.

Touching Safety Program—The diocese has decided to start a new touching safety program called the *Goretti Project*. This new program will utilize an app on your cellphone and can be used by all interested families. Teaching Touching Safety will return to the classroom sometime this year. As of yet, we have not received the new materials from the diocese. This is why it is not currently on your CCD schedule. Once we are trained and receive all the materials, I will communicate all the details to parents.