

*As for me and my household we will serve the Lord. Joshua 24:15*

Dear parent,

August 27, 2015

I've taught children religion for more than 30 years. I've seen many examples that the children who know and practice the faith best are almost always from families that know and practice their faith. This makes it clear that catechists help you make your children good followers of Christ - they don't replace you. Children learn best by your example of pray, respect and service of others. Children that have been shown how to practice the faith at home and at church will benefit from instruction at CCRE. You can boost what happens at CCRE by using the Family Faith suggestions, introducing yourself to your child's catechist, and being here for activities and Masses.

Yours in Christ,  
Deacon Tim Murphy DRE  
Director of Religious Education

**We still need catechists for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, & 4<sup>th</sup> grade.**

The basic qualifications of a catechist are the same as parents sending children to CCRE – your care for children and your faith. There is a book to follow and these groups have less than ten children.

**Please join other families in starting the year together praising God at our Family Mass: September 16 at 6PM.**

**Regular Classes will begin September 23**

**A freshman parent must attend a meeting September 24 at 8:00 PM in the school cafeteria to get the requirements for the 2 year preparation program.**

### Family Faith

*Instead of asking: "What did you learn at CCRE?" and being told: "I don't know." or "Nothing." Talk about the monthly theme with your child. You might be surprised what they can tell you.*

### September Theme *Revelation*

God has fully revealed in Jesus Christ what we need to know to live in a close relationship with Him forever. The Gospels tell us all about Jesus. A child can understand these short stories and yet the greatest saint can always learn more from them.



Eating dinner together is a regular event in a healthy family. The simple ritual of eating and talking at a table can do so much. That is why Jesus left us with a meal (the Mass) and not a textbook. To appreciate Jesus' action in your family's life more, have a special meal together once a week and—

Read Sunday's Gospel, and let each person answer the question.

**September 6** Helping others grow *Matthew 18:15-20*

How can you help another person do the right thing?

**September 13** Forgiveness and mercy *Matthew 18:21-35*

When have you forgiven someone who treated you unfairly?

**September 20** God's generosity *Matthew 20:1-16*

Compare a time when you were fair, and a time when you were generous. Which felt better?

**September 27**—Parable of the two sons *Matthew 21:28-32*

A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, "Son, go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not"; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, "I go, sir"; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father? They said, "The first." (Matthew 21:28-31)  
Why is it important to follow through on your promises to others?



### **CCRE asks parents to**

#### **S H A R E :**

**Str**ess the importance of learning about your child's faith by talking about and taking an interest in what was done in the religious education class. (See above.)

**Hel**p your child actively practice his/her faith by attendance at Sunday mass and daily prayer (mealtimes and bedtime are good times). Display signs of your faith like pictures, objects, quotes in your house. Also, assist your child with the memorization of formal prayers. (See prayers enclosed.)

**Acc**ept primary responsibility for the religious education of your child.

**Re-en**force the expectation that your child shows respect and proper conduct in the classroom.

**Enc**ourage good attendance at religious education classes.

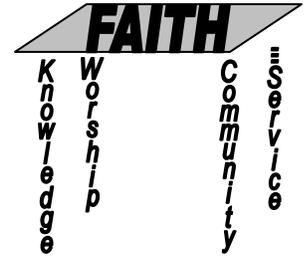
**Parents are expected to share their time as a CCRE volunteer at least once a year.**

## **ATTENDANCE**

Please notify the DRE if your child/children will not be attending class by contacting the religious education office (792-0513 or [c cre@win-4-u.net](mailto:c cre@win-4-u.net)). This is for their safety as well as accountability.

# Curriculum Overview

The Catholic way of life is based upon our baptismal call to carry on the ministry of Jesus in the mission of the Church. This mission of the Church is a **community** that **worships** together and **serves** others especially by spreading the **message** of the Good News. Therefore, the following standards for religious education are built on these **four areas** for a balanced formation in the Catholic way of life like the legs of a table.



## Grade Level Standards

**Kindergarten:** To show God's love for us is an invitation to love God and everyone in God's family.

**Grade 1:** To develop an awareness of God the Creator, who gives us life and grace and promises us eternal life through Jesus.

**Grade 2:** To present Jesus as the model for Christian living, and to introduce the sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, and Eucharist.

**Grade 3:** To deepen the child's understanding of the Church and to help the child experience the Church as a Christian community.

**Grade 4:** To help the child form a conscience according to the teachings of the Catholic Church and to learn the basics of Christian morality as taught in the Old and New Testaments.

**Grade 5:** To help the child understand Catholic sacramental rituals and thus become a more conscious and active participant in the church's sacramental life.

**Grade 6:** To help the child understand the revelation of God in the Old Testament.

**Grade 7:** To enable youth to apply the teachings of Jesus to their lives.

**Grade 8:** To enable youth to gain a deeper understanding of Catholic Church history that is continually unfolding under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

**Grade 9:** To enable youth to understand our basic beliefs in the Creed on a more mature level and how to live morally.

**Grades 10:** To help youth appreciate how God acts in our lives in the Sacraments and prayer.

**Children that complete the entire program receive the two basic books of our faith: a Bible in 6<sup>th</sup> grade and the Catholic Faith Handbook in 10<sup>th</sup> grade.**

**Sacrament Policy:** Sacraments are free gifts from God, they are not earned. Children do need to be prepared to understand and grow in the grace they receive. Ideally this is a part of a life long journey of faith. But some minimum requirements are necessary: Children must be enrolled in the CCRE program for at least 2 years before receiving a Sacrament. This means to be confirmed in 10<sup>th</sup> grade one must attend 9<sup>th</sup> grade, and to receive first communion in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade one must attend 1<sup>st</sup> grade. Those that miss this usual path will receive special instruction during their second year in the program before receiving a sacrament.

## DISCIPLINE

1. Minor discipline problems are handled directly by the catechist in the classroom.
2. The first time a major problem occurs, the student is dismissed from class and reports to the DRE.
3. If the student is asked to leave class a second time, he or she again reports to the DRE. The student will not be allowed to attend class again until a conference has been held with the parent, student, DRE and catechist to agree on how to proceed.



## CANCELLATIONS

 Cancellation of classes will be automatic if Carroll Community schools are dismissed early that day due to severe weather. If severe weather occurs after school dismisses, but before CCRE sessions start, tune to announcements on Radio Stations KCIM/KKRL/KIKD. Cancellations will also be posted on the CCRE webpage.

Contacting me: (Weekday afternoons are the best time to catch me in my office.)

St. Lawrence Rectory at **1607 N. West Street.**

My phone number is **792-0513**. **To leave a message use ext. 13**

My email is [ccre@win-4-u.net](mailto:ccre@win-4-u.net) .

The CCRE webpage is at

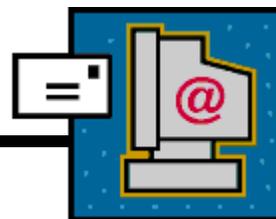
<http://www.saintlawrencecarroll.org/childrenyouthministry/ccre.html>

(or just Google: **Carroll CCRE** )



And of course, I am in the halls class nights.

To save paper and hold down expenses this handbook and the monthly newsletter will not be printed and sent to you (unless specifically requested). If I have your current email address I will email you reminders on the last Wednesday of each month with a link for the newsletter.



# Prayers to Know

Prayer is an integral part of our faith. There are many kinds of prayers. Saying what is in your heart to God is the best prayer to model for your children. Children should experience a variety of ways to pray including both memorized prayers and spontaneous prayers.

**Parents need to help children learn these prayers and make them a part of their lives** to pray together as a family and a church.

## Kindergarten

The Sign of the Cross In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

### Glory Be to the Father

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

### Guardian Angel

Angel of God, my guardian dear, to who his love commits me here, ever this day (night) be at my side, to light and guard, and rule and guide. Amen

## Grade 1

### The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

### Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace! The Lord is with you; blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death.

## Grade 2

### An Act of Contrition

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with Your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Savior Jesus Christ, suffered and died for us. In his name, my God, have mercy. Amen.

### Prayer Before Meals

Bless us, O Lord and these Your gifts, which we are about to receive from Your bounty, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Grade 3

### The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended to the dead; On the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

Amen.

### *3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Continued*

#### Morning Offering

I thank you, Heavenly Father, for giving me another day, I offer you the things I do, and everything I think and say. With you Son and Holy Spirit, helping me in all I do, I want to use your gifts to me, to show You that I love You, Amen.



#### **Grade 4**

**The Rosary** The mysteries and how to say it will be sent home when introduced at CCRE

#### **Grade 5**

#### An Act of Faith

0 my God, I firmly believe that You are one God in three Divine Persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; I believe that your Divine Son became man and died for our sins, and that He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe these and all the truths which the Holy Catholic Church teaches, because You revealed them, who can neither deceive nor be deceived.

#### An Act of Hope

0 my God, relying on Your infinite goodness and promises, I hope to obtain pardon of my sins, the help of Your grace, and life everlasting, through the merits of Jesus Christ, my Lord and Redeemer.

### *5<sup>th</sup> Grade Continued*

#### An Act of Love

0 my God, I love You above all things, with my whole heart and soul, because You are all-good and worthy of all love. I love my neighbor as myself for the love of You. I forgive all who have injured me, and I ask pardon of all whom I have injured.

#### **Grade 6**

#### Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit, 0 Lord, and they shall be created. And you shall renew the face of the earth.

#### Prayer of St. Francis

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy.  
Divine Master, grant that I may not seek so much to be consoled as to comfort; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardon; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.  
Amen

Praying doesn't stop at Grade 7.

By reviewing through the years and modeling a life of prayer your child will have the roots for a rich prayer life.

And don't forget the greatest pray for all ages: **Mass**