

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

Faith Formation Handbook 2011 - 2012

Robin Brierly
Coordinator of Faith Formation
515-994-2324 home
515-674-3711 church

Immaculate Conception Parish

Faith Formation Covenant

God our heavenly Father has entered into a covenant relationship with us, His children, through our baptism, and our sealing with the Holy Spirit in Confirmation. The Church responds to God's offer by faithfully preaching the truth of the Gospel, ministering the Sacraments, and loving God above all things and each of God's children as brothers and sisters in Christ.

Immaculate Conception Parish is committed to bearing witness to God's covenant as a faith filled community. Each of us, clergy and laity, is responsible to the whole community to be obedient to God's will and to assist one another in our mutual responsibilities. Toward that end we affirm this covenant relationship with the following commitments:

I, Joe Dvorak, Deacon of Immaculate Conception Parish, will provide pastoral leadership in our community so that the programs we have will support parents as the primary educators of their children, foster stronger participation by the faithful within the Roman Catholic Church, and be a good example of discipleship in the Holy Spirit. I will be available to lend aid to parents, catechists, and students to help them keep their commitments. I will implement the policies of the diocese of Davenport in keeping with the mission of the local church to embody Christian communion with the universal Church.

In our vocation as spouses and parents we,

_____ will offer our children the fullness of the faith as it has been given us within our parish community and the diocese of Davenport. We will attend Mass every Sunday and Holy Days of Obligation, be active participants in the life of Immaculate Conception Parish, foster a devotion to the Sacraments with our children, review Faith Formation with our children, and see to it that our children attend Faith Formation classes and events punctually and properly prepared.

I, _____, a member of Immaculate Conception Parish participating in the Faith Formation Program, will keep my covenant in the following ways: by obeying my parents as they seek to form me as a child of God, attending Sunday Mass and Holy Day Masses with my family, being of service within the Parish community, and regularly attending the Faith Formation classes in which I am enrolled. I will come to class prepared, listen respectfully to my teachers and classmates, and work with my parents to better understand how I am called to be like Jesus in thought, word, and deed.

Parent Role

Parents are the primary educators of their children, the youth of our parish. Our Religious Education program seeks to support you as you raise and educate your children in the Roman Catholic tradition.

You are expected to review carefully the covenant attached to this handbook. We ask that you and your child keep for your own future reference.

You are also expected to attend parent meetings when they are called. The purpose of these meetings is to bring new information to you, and to allow you to express your own ideas and opinions regarding classes and special events.

Always keep in mind that the importance your child places on Faith Formation classes, attendance at Mass, and participation in the Sacraments is a reflection of the importance you place on it.

Attendance

Faith Formation classes begin promptly as scheduled. Regular attendance is expected. If a child is ill or will otherwise be kept from attending class, the parent or guardian should call Robin Brierly (515-994-2324 or 707-3417) before 6pm or send a note to class with a sibling.

Social and Athletic activities should not interfere with attendance at faith formation classes.

Fees 2011-2012*

One child	\$25.00
Two children	\$50.00
Three or more	\$75.00

*faith formation teachers and their helpers do not pay

Class Meeting Times and Locations

Preschool /Kindergarten children's liturgy: Sun. during 11 am mass

K through 4th grades: Wed. 6:30 - 7:30pm Church hall

5th through 6th grades: Wed. 6:30- 7:30pm Rectory basement

7th and 8th grade: Wed. 6:30 - 7:30 Rectory main level

High school youth group: Wed. 7pm Susan Hagarty's House

If the Colfax-Mingo schools have cancelled or dismissed early due to severe weather, faith formation classes are automatically cancelled that evening. If severe weather is predicted or occurs in the late afternoon or evening, announcements will be made on KCOB 95.5FM, 1280AM. You may also try to call the rectory at 674.3711, Robin Brierly at 515-994-2324, 515-707-3417, or your child's teacher.

Drop off, Pick up, and Parking

Students in kindergarten through 3rd grade may be dropped off and picked up from your car at the Iowa Street door to the church hall. There will be *no parking along the east side of the street* so you can get in and out with ease and safety.

When class is over students will be released from the building when their parents pull up to the sidewalk. **Parents are to remain in their vehicles.** Please line cars up in an orderly fashion, and move out as quickly and safely as possible.

If you wish to come get your child in the church hall, please park in the main church parking lot, and do not enter the church hall until we begin dismissing children at 7:30. Church hall doors will be locked from the outside until classes are dismissed. We want to reduce the number of distractions in the last few minutes of class.

Students in 5th through 8th grade may be dropped off at the rectory. Students will be dismissed by their teacher as a group. Those who are meeting younger siblings at the church hall are to travel across Howard Street as a group.

Prayers and Topics Taught at each Grade Level

Kindergarten

- Sign of the Cross
- Hail Mary
- Lord's Prayer (Our Father)

First Grade

- Review above prayers
- Glory Be
- Grace Before Meals
- Guardian Angel

Second Grade

- Act of Contrition
- Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist

Third Grade

- Nicene Creed compare to Apostle's Creed
- Study of the Seven Sacraments

Fourth Grade

- Ten Commandments
- Beatitudes

Fifth Grade

- Rosary
- Stations of the Cross

Sixth Grade

- Bible- books, characters, roles, Old Testament and New Testament

Seventh and Eighth Grades

- Youth Ministry Access from the Center for Ministry Development

Class Rules and Discipline

1. Students will respect each other and the teacher.
 2. Students will arrive on time and prepared for class.
 3. Students will take care of materials, supplies and furniture.
 4. Other rules specific to each class will be set by the teachers and students.
- If a student becomes disruptive they will be removed from class. Parents will be notified if the student continues to be disruptive.

Curriculum

Pre-K will use the *Seeds (Gospel Weeklies)* during 11:00 Mass

K-6 Grade Texts and Faith Journals *Walking By Faith*, Brown ROA
Supplemental materials will be used for Second Grade Sacramental Preparation.

CRE/Teachers will bring additional materials into class pertaining to the lessons. The Catechism of the Catholic Church will be referenced when needed to supplement Religious Education.

Sacramental Preparation

Children in Second Grade will be preparing for and receiving the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist. Parents and Guardians must be actively involved in the process. Attendance at meetings and the retreat are required. Specifics dates are on the calendar if any changes are necessary we will let you know.

Children in 7-8th grade prepare for and receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. This process is scheduled every other year, based on class size, parish schedule, and Deanery/Diocesan schedule. All classes, workshops, rites, meetings, and the retreat are REQUIRED. A separate Confirmation handbook with dates and obligations will be distributed to candidates, parents, and sponsors.

WE WILL NOT HAVE CONFIRMATION THIS YEAR 2011-2012!

K-8 Faith Formation Fee Form

Please pay \$25 per student \$75 max per family
Teachers and helpers do not pay to enroll their children.
Make checks payable to ICFF. Registration and fees must be returned before Sept 27.
Immaculate Conception Church
Attn. Faith Formation
305 East Howard Street
Colfax, Iowa 50054

Family Name _____ number of children _____

Willing to teach? Yes No Willing to help in the classroom? Yes No
Total amount enclosed _____

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