



St. Boniface Catholic Church

Parent Guide to Faith Formation 2020/21

Welcome to St. Boniface Faith Formation

The children and youth of our community are the future of the Catholic faith.

Our goal is to support your family's efforts to ground your children in the tenets of our faith and set the foundation for a lifetime of spiritual development. We're here to provide a nurturing, vibrant environment conducive to learning about the Catholic Church and developing an ongoing relationship with God.

We look forward to working with you and your children. If you have any questions or comments about St. Boniface Faith Formation policies and procedures, please contact Celeste Gish at 912.754.1432 or celestegish@windstream.net.

Staying safe from Covid-19

In an effort to balance safety with the need for catechesis, St. Boniface will support home-based catechism beginning September 13, 2020. Books and online videos for Pre-K through grade eight will be available to families to take home.

The only face-to-face class during first semester will be for ninth graders. Social distancing will be practiced. Second graders will receive in-person instruction from catechists during second semester if they successfully complete their first semester of home-based learning.

There will be a September 13 meeting at 10 am in the parish hall for parents of Confirmation and First Communion candidates.

Registration forms are online at sbcatholic.com and may be mailed in, with registration fees, to the parish office. Watch the Bulletin for information on when books will be distributed.

Thanks for your patience and flexibility as we do our best to safely provide religious education during these challenging times.

Tuition

Tuition: \$15 for one child; \$25 for two; and \$35 for three or more. Fees are due by the first class in October.

Confirmation

Confirmation preparation begins in seventh grade and continues through the first semester of ninth grade. During eighth grade, each candidate is responsible for choosing a sponsor, providing a baptismal certificate, researching a saint, completing service hours and writing a letter to the Bishop, among other mandatory requirements. Please contact the DRE if you have questions about the process. We urge parents to play an active role in their child's sacramental preparation.

First Holy Communion

Second-graders who have completed first-grade religious education either at St. Boniface or in another parish will be prepared to receive the sacraments of First Penance and First Eucharist. Any child missing two or more classes must make arrangements with Fr. Martino in order to receive First Communion with the rest of the class.

Touching Safety Program

The Diocese of Savannah mandates that we offer Touching Safety training, an age-appropriate program to teach children in kindergarten through high school about touching safety and personal boundaries. If you do NOT want your child to participate, please contact the DRE. If you want your child to participate, no action is necessary.

Dress Code

We expect our children and youth to show respect for God, the Church and each other by dressing modestly.

Expectations for Parents

It's important for your children to know that you care about their faith development. Please take time to ask them about their classes and review any material sent home, if applicable. Time set aside to pray and read Scripture as a family is also essential as is family participation at weekly Mass.

Be a role model by:

- ◆ Attending and actively participating at Mass.
- ◆ Making sure your child attends class regularly and on time.
- ◆ Communicating special needs to the appropriate teacher/s.
- ◆ Engaging your child in discussions about Faith Formation class.
- ◆ Praying with your child at home.

Expectations for Students

- ◆ Respect God, yourself, one another, your catechists and others' property.
- ◆ Cooperate with adults and other students.
- ◆ Participate in classroom activities and discussions.
- ◆ Attend class regularly and complete homework assignments.
- ◆ Follow rules posted in each classroom.
- ◆ No cell phone usage during class.
- ◆ No tobacco, alcohol, illegal drugs or weapons on St. Boniface premises.

CCD Is a Family Affair

More than ever, we are relying on parents to take the time to instruct their children, pray with them and exemplify the importance of a God-centered life.

"Parents have the first responsibility for the education of their children. They bear witness to this responsibility first by creating a home where tenderness, forgiveness, respect, fidelity, and disinterested service are the rule. The home is well suited for education in the virtues. This requires an apprenticeship in self-denial, sound judgment, and self-mastery, the preconditions of all true freedom. Parents should teach their children to subordinate the 'material and instinctual dimensions to interior and spiritual ones.' Parents have a grave responsibility to give good example to their children. By knowing how to acknowledge their own failings to their children, parents will be better able to guide and correct them." (CCC 2223)

Please contact Celeste Gish at celestegish@windstream.net or 912.754.1432 with any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support of St. Boniface Faith Formation.