

St. Croix Catholic Faith Formation Program Options 2011-2012

Curriculum: Grades Pre K - 2 will use the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, a Montessori based approach to catechesis. Curriculum for grades 3 - 8 is the *Image of God* series co-authored by Bishop LeVoir and published by Ignatius Press.

Faith Formation Program:

Our program has planned family oriented components as the role of the family is foundational. These components will assist parents to live out their role as primary educators of the faith to their children and allow the entire family to grow through experiences of prayer, liturgy, service, outreach and celebration.

- **Option 1: Wednesday Afternoon (Kindergarten – 8th grade)**
Wednesday Afternoons from **4:15 – 5:45 pm**. Classes are held in St. Croix Catholic School or at St. Mary's Education Center. Classes will generally meet three Wednesdays of the month from September through May with some exceptions.
- **Option 2: Wednesday Evening (Kindergarten - 8th grade)**
Wednesday Evenings from **6:30 – 8:00 pm**. Classes will be held in St. Croix Catholic School. Classes will generally meet three Wednesdays of the month from September through May with some exceptions.

First Reconciliation and First Communion: Students preparing for these sacraments will complete home lessons with parents and participate in 2 retreats in addition to their religious formation either through SCCS, SCCFF, or home schooling.

7th and 8th Grade Evening Students: One Wednesday evening of the month will be held as the Jr. High Youth Program, "Activate". This is a part of the 7th and 8th grade curriculum.

•**Activate**• is a relational ministry intended to help junior high students 'activate' their Catholic identity by connecting knowledge obtained in their formal, catechetical environment – be it St. Croix Catholic Middle School (SCCS), Faith Formation or Home School – with a personal relationship with God. Elements of games, music, hands-on activities, talks, small group discussions, and prayer help the staff of senior high peer ministers (Teen Core) to integrate faith and daily life.

7th and 8th Grade Afternoon Students: One Wednesday evening of the month will be held as the Jr. High Youth Program, "Activate". (See description above) For those students enrolled in the afternoon program, you will have the option of attending the evening Jr. High Youth Program or have an at home assignment to complete.

- **Option 3: Catechesis of The Good Shepherd/Atrium (Pre-K: 3 & 4 yrs of age)**

This new religious formation program was developed to nurture the child's relationship with God and is inspired by the Montessori Method. The "atrium" is a beautiful environment especially prepared for children and contains various articles of liturgy (Mass, Baptism, Sacraments, prayer) and scripture materials (Good Shepherd, True Vine, Moral Parables, Infancy Narratives, Prayer). Children have the opportunity to ponder scripture passages or liturgical prayers while interacting with the materials. All classes will be held in the John and Mary Building classrooms. Classes will generally meet three times a month from September through May with some exceptions. There will be four options to choose from:

Tuesday's: (9:30 am – 11:00am)	Wednesday's (4:15 pm – 5:45 pm)
Thursday's (9:30 am – 11:00am)	Wednesday's (6:30pm – 8:00 pm)

- **Option 4: Confirmation Program:** Confirmation students will participate in two to three small/large group sessions scheduled during each month from 6:30 – 8:00 pm.
- **Option 5: Sr. High Youth Group:** (Formerly Life Teen) ‘*Veritas*’ The purpose of *Veritas* (Latin for ‘truth’) is to lead high school teenagers to discover the truth in the teachings of the Church, but above all to encounter Truth himself in the person of Jesus Christ. *Veritas* is the Catholic youth outreach program for the St. Croix Valley that provides young people with the opportunity to encounter Christ and the life of his Church by means of what our staff has dubbed ‘backdoor catechesis’ – intensely traditional theological and philosophical learning by non-traditional means such as: games & activities, music, media, discussions, talks, prayer, and sacraments. Above all, *Veritas* is a relational ministry -- a ministry based on the forming of healthy mentor relationships as a means of communicating relationship with Christ.
- **Option 6: Senior High Sessions:** In order to encourage teenagers to continue the learning process beyond the Confirmation year – short, intensive series will be offered. These series include, but are not limited to: *The Teen Timeline* scripture studies of the Gospel of Matthew, Acts of the Apostles, and/or Revelation; *The Theology of the Body for Teens* (Ascension Press, 2006); and a discussion-based “Great Books Club” which will include such Catholic classics as Dante’s *The Divine Comedy*, St. Augustine’s *Confessions*, and C.S. Lewis’ *Mere Christianity*.

St. Croix Catholic Faith Formation Tuition Policies

A \$50.00 registration fee (family max of \$100.00) is due at the time of registration. **IMPORTANT NOTE:** The deposit is deducted from the total tuition due.

If a family should need to withdraw their child/children from St. Croix Catholic Faith Formation classes due to unforeseen circumstances, SCCFF will reimburse families as follows:

1. Registration fee is nonrefundable after classes start.
2. Cancellations prior to December 31, 2011, will be prorated for materials and classes attended.
3. No tuition will be reimbursed after December 31, 2011.

Late registrations will be evaluated on a case by case basis. If sacraments are being registered for, it is possible we may suggest waiting until the next calendar year for their child to begin.