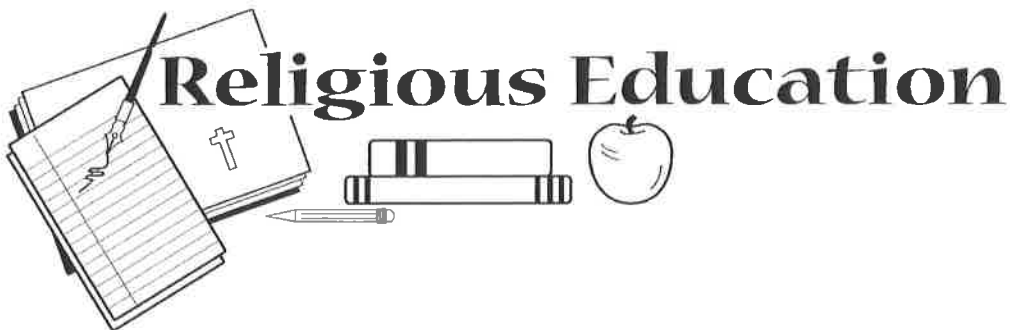


2021- 2022

Handbook

*Immaculate Conception – Elma
Our Lady of Lourdes – Lourdes
St. Bernard's – Alta Vista*

“We must restore hope to young people, help the old, be open to the future, spread love. Be poor among the poor. We need to include the excluded and preach peace.” Pope Francis



Parents and Students –

Hello and welcome to the 2021-22 Religious Education year! Let me start by saying I truly hope for this school year to be much more 'normal' than what we endured in 2020-2021. Learning from home for the first half of the year was a challenge we met head on. While the situation was not ideal, the combined efforts of our teachers/students/parents made the best of a hard situation. Thank you for your patience and support.

We will begin the school year holding live classes. While it is my hope that we can hold live classes for the entirety of the year, the situation remains fluid.

Masks for teachers and students will be optional to begin the year. This can change at any time depending on state and school guidelines. We encourage preventative practices like using hand sanitizer, washing hands, and keeping children home from RE if they are ill or at high risk due to exposure to someone testing positive for COVID-19.

As you may have seen in the Bulletin throughout the summer, we are always in need of both regular and substitute RE teachers for all grade levels. A brief safe environment online training is required for all volunteers and you will be paid for your time. Additional volunteers help us keep class sizes smaller and provides a better classroom experience for both students and teachers. If interested in assisting the RE program, please indicate your level of interest on the registration form you turn in this evening.

I look forward to a great new school year! As always, don't hesitate to contact me throughout the school year with any questions or concerns.

Chad Buckley
Holy Rosary Cluster DRE
515-290-5867
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Calendar of Events

Religious Education Classes meet from 6:30 – 7:45 PM at Lourdes. All events subject to change

Date	Description
9/8/2021	Registration Night for Students and Parents
9/15/2021	First Night of Regular Class
9/22/2021	
9/29/2021	
10/6/2021	<i>*Teachers Meeting at 6PM preceding Class</i>
10/13/2021	
10/20/2021	
10/27/2021	
11/3/2021	<i>*Teachers Meeting at 6PM preceding Class</i>
11/10/2021	
11/17/2021	Reconciliation (including 1st Reconciliation for 2nd Grade; Lourdes Church)
11/24/2021	No Class (Thanksgiving Week)
12/1/2021	<i>*Teachers Meeting at 6PM preceding Class, Christmas Program Rehearsal</i>
12/8/2021	<i>Christmas Program Rehearsal</i>
12/15/2021	Christmas Program/Soup Supper/Auction
12/22/2021	No Class
12/29/2021	No Class
1/5/2022	No Class
1/12/2022	
1/19/2022	
1/26/2022	
2/2/2022	<i>*Teachers Meeting at 6PM preceding Class</i>
2/9/2022	
2/16/2022	
2/23/2022	
3/2/2022	Ash Wednesday; Teachers Meeting at 6PM preceding Class
3/9/2022	
3/16/2022	Reconciliation (Lourdes Church)
3/23/2022	
3/30/2022	
4/6/2022	<i>*Teachers Meeting at 6PM preceding Class</i>
4/13/2022	Last Night of Class
4/20/2022	<i>Make Up (if needed)</i>

*Confirmation = Saturday 10/9/2021 at 4PM in Lourdes

Tuition and Fees:

Dues for the school year are comprised of 3 different items:

- 1) Base Tuition
 - 2) Consumable Books
 - 3) Sacrament Supplies
- Base tuition is determined by the number of children attending Religious Education for your family. Family tuition rates are as follows:

Number of Children	Base Tuition
1	30
2	45
3	55
4 or more	65

Some of our families have children who attend St. John's School of Religion in New Hampton once they reach High School. If one of our Combined Religious Ed families has a child who does attend St. Johns School, this child should be counted in on our annual tuition for the Combined Religious Ed.

- Consumable books are the books teachers will use for their evening lessons. Students may keep all books purchased. Consumable book fees are \$20 per student. Note that students being Confirmed on 10/9/2021 do not have a book fee for the coming year as they already have their consumable books from last year.
- A Sacrament Supplies fee of \$20 applies to any student receiving one or more Sacraments the 2021-2022 class year. This is applicable to:
 - 2nd Grade Students who will be receiving their First Reconciliation (11/17/2021) and First Holy Communion (5/14/2022)
 - High School Students who will be receiving Confirmation on 10/9/2021

**Example 1: I have a 2nd grade student and a 4th grade student. Base tuition (\$45) + Consumable Books (\$40) + Sacrament Fee for my 2nd Grader (\$20) = \$105 for the year.*

Example 2: I have students in 6th, 7th and 10th Grade. Base tuition (\$55) + Consumable Books for 6th and 7th (\$40) + Sacrament Fee for 10th Grader (\$20) = \$115 for the year.

*All Checks can be made payable to **"your parish"**.

**If anyone has difficulty covering any of these costs, please let me know so I can assist in arranging assistance through the parish. I can be reached by phone at 515-290-5867 or via email at chadtbuckley@gmail.com.

GENERAL RULES

1. The same rules pertain at religion class as apply at school –
 - a. Students are always expected to treat both their teachers and peers with respect and courtesy.
 - b. Proper dress is expected.
 - c. No profanity or obscenities will be allowed.
 - d. Gum, candy, pop, and outside food are not permitted in the classroom.
 - e. Cell phones are to be silenced or powered off when entering the classroom. If cell phones are deemed a distraction in the classroom, teachers reserve the right to collect phones at the beginning of class and return them at the end of class.
2. Class will start at 6:30 p.m. Students are not to be admitted to their classes until 6:20 p.m. Parents, PLEASE do not bring your children any earlier. Class will be concluded at 7:45 p.m. Make sure your child has a ride home at that time.
3. Attendance will be recorded weekly. Be sure to contact your teacher or the DRE if your child is unable to attend.
4. Excessive absenteeism will be addressed as needed.

Cancellation due to Weather:

It is our policy is that if Cresco, New Hampton or Riceville schools cancel or are let out early on a Wednesday due to weather related conditions, we will not have RE Class.

There may be occasions where school is held as scheduled, but late day weather conditions are such that Religious Education is cancelled. The best resource for immediate information regarding a decision like this is to follow Holy Rosary Cluster on Facebook, or if not a Facebook user, view our posts here as a guest:

<https://www.facebook.com/pg/HolyRosaryCluster/posts/>

If cancelling evening classes due to weather, we try make that decision and post no later than 5:30 PM. Winter weather conditions can vary and escalate quickly by area given how spread out our parishioners are. Please use your discretion if road conditions in your area allow will allow safe travel. The safety of our students and families is our top priority.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION DISCIPLINE POLICY

If a student, while in the religious education program at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Lourdes, causes a disturbance or is a discipline problem, several steps will be initiated.

1. They will be reprimanded by the classroom teacher and warned of the first offense.
2. Second offense, they will be sent to the DRE to discuss the situation. The child may-or-may not return to class for the evening based on the severity of the situation.
3. Third offense, the student's parents or guardians, the student, and the classroom teacher will be asked to meet with the DRE.
4. If a problem continues to exist, the student will be asked to leave the religious education program for the remainder of the year.

HELP FOR VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ABUSE

The Archdiocese of Dubuque has established a program of pastoral assistance to people who believe they or those in their care have been sexually abused as minors by clergy or other Church personnel. This assistance will include help in informing civil and Church authorities. Victim Assistance Coordinators are trained to facilitate access to appropriate professional mental health services, social service agencies, support groups and/or individuals who can provide spiritual care. Any individual desiring help from this program is invited to call toll free 800-803-4536 to report an allegation or receive assistance. This program is part of the new "Policy for the Protection of Minors."