

**RELIGIOUS
EDUCATION
PARENT
HANDBOOK**



**IMMACULATION
CONCEPTION
CHURCH**

RICEVILLE

2021 - 2022



Holy Rosary Cluster

St. Bernard Parish, Alta Vista, IA † Immaculate Conception Parish, Elma IA
Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Lourdes IA † St. Peter Parish, New Haven, IA
Immaculate Conception Parish, Riceville IA

Dear Parents and Families,

A Mission Priority from our Archbishop is "Strengthening Programs for On-Going Education in the Faith." Faith formation, teaching others about Jesus and forming disciples of Jesus in the Catholic Church, is the most important ministry for continuing Jesus' mission. All we do as a Church rises or falls on the strength of our efforts to educate people in our Catholic Faith.

Our religious education program is a principal way the greater parish assists parents in their vocation as primary formators of our Catholic Faith for their children. I encourage parents and families to regularly discuss as a family what is being taught at religious education. We mostly use the *Finding God* textbook series for our classes. Their website has great additional resources for families to help with this discussion: www.findinggod.com

I also encourage you to participate in any religious education activities that are open to or need parent or family involvement. And I especially invite you to further your own faith formation at an adult level. Most importantly, continue or begin to make weekend Mass a priority for your family. We come into contact with Jesus at Mass; we hear His word and receive the Eucharist, and we worship as a family of God. Regularly make your family part of God's family at Sunday Mass. A recent survey of students and adults in our Archdiocese showed formal religious education, whether through Catholic schools or religious education programs, has minimal impact on a child's living their Catholic Faith unless their family itself practiced the Catholic Faith. Go to Mass and pray as a family. Live in a way that shows your child you're serious about being a disciple of Jesus.

Debbie Oulman continues as our Director of Religious Education. She is experienced and dedicated to sharing the Gospel of Jesus with others. Please contact her or me if you have any questions, suggestions, or concerns.

In Christ,

Fr. Jerry Kopacek
Fr. Jerry Kopacek

August 25, 2021

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to our 2021-2022 Religious Education Program here at Immaculate Conception Church in Riceville.

We strive to provide your child with faith formation to the best of our ability within the hours of class time that we have scheduled. We will assist you, as parent and first educators' of your child in the faith, with the time we have in the classroom to build a strong and faith filled lifelong Catholic learner.

Our first CCD class is Wednesday, September 8th 6:30-8:00pm. Please keep the attached schedule handy to know what is happening each week.

News Items:

1. Mary Novacek has retired after teaching numerous years in our CCD program. Mary, thank you for your dedication to our program. Your "can do" attitude will be missed.
2. I would like to welcome Michelle Dohman to our Catechist staff. Michelle will be teaching the 11th & 12th graders. Welcome Michelle.
3. Our program still needs a teacher for 5th grade, and 6th grade. Please contact me to get started investing in our youth.
4. Covid-19/Delta...well, it's still around...what do we do? We'll do our best to protector our youth and teachers. Not all classrooms can do 3 foot spacing, if you want to have your student wear a mask each week to class that is your choice as parent. I'll let my teachers direct their classroom needs.

Holy Rosary Cluster is in its eighth year of our textbook series, which we are using throughout the program in the cluster. Our high school is using a program that was implemented throughout the Archdioceses of Dubuque; Catholic Essential from Ave Maria Press and The Catholic Faith Handbook from Saint Mary's Press.

First through eight grade are using Finding God series from Loyola Press. To get a handle on all the support material that is available on the website for the parents, I encourage you to visit www.findinggod.com.

Let's go forth and spread the Good News,



Debbie Oulman
Director of Religious Education (DRE)
641-985-2791

Riceville Class Schedule 1st – 12th grade 2021 - 2022
 Wednesday 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

| | | |
|-----------|------------------|---|
| September | 8, 15, 22, 29 | Regular Class |
| October | 6, 13, 20, 27 | Regular Class (October the month of Mary) Student led Rosary at 7:45 each night in the church. All are welcome. |
| November | 3, 10, 17 | Regular Class |
| December | 1, 8, 15 | Regular Class 1 st Advent Confession in Riceville (2 nd – 12 th grade) 12 th Christmas Program 1 st – 4 th after 9:00 Mass |
| January | 12, 19, 26 | Regular Class |
| February | 2, 9, 16, 23 | Regular Class |
| March | 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 | Regular Class 2 nd Ash Wed. Mass @ 8:00pm (CCD class 6:30 - 8:00) During Lent Students will lead the Station of the Cross @ 7:45 in the church. All are welcomed. 9 th Lent Confession in Riceville (2 nd – 12 th grade) |
| April | 6, 13, 20, 27 | 6 th Make-up only all grades (2 nd grade will have class April 6 - 27) Easter is April 17, 2022 |

Confirmation: First year Confirmation students (freshmen class), this is your first year preparing for the sacrament of Confirmation. We, at Immaculate Conception Church, have a two-Year program. Your excellence in attendance in this two year program and Mass is essential to receiving this sacrament. The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated on Saturday, October 9, 2021 in Lourdes at 4:00 Mass for our 10th and 11th grade students.

First Confession: Review class will be Saturday, November 13th & 20th @ 9:00 – 10:00am
 2nd graders will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on December 1st during CCD.

First Holy Communion: Review class will be Wednesday, April 6, 13, 20, 27 2021 @ 6:30 – 7:30pm
 Practice for First Holy Communion is Saturday, April 30, 2022 @ 9:00 in the church.
 First Holy Communion for our 2nd graders is May 1, 2022 during 9:00 Mass.

Grades 5th – 8th will participate in the Mass during Advent; Nov. 28, Dec. 12, 19

Grades 9th – 12th will participate in the Mass during Lent & lead the Stations of the Cross of the Cross
 Mar. 6, 13, 27, April 3.

5th – 12th grades will take their turn participating in the Sunday morning 9:00 Mass; meet in the church hall @ 8:30 on your appointed Sunday. Dress appropriately.

May 1, 2022 – May Crowning/1st Holy Communion – Sunday 9:00 Mass 2nd Grade and seniors will process in with flowers and crown Mary.

May 8, 2022 – Closing Mass – All CCD students will sit upfront with their class on Mary's side and Senior Recognition – Seniors will sit with their parents on Joseph side.

No School due to weather, no CCD.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH, RICEVILLE
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Catechetical Program Tuition:

Parish Member 1st Child \$30 + \$20 book fee = \$50
2nd Child \$45 + \$40 book fees = \$85
3rd Child \$55 + \$60 book fees = \$115
4th Child \$65 + \$80 book fees = \$145

High School students will use their books for four years.

Plus \$15 for each Sacramental Preparation:
Reconciliation, Holy Eucharist & Confirmation

Your Tuition this year is \$ _____

Makes checks payable to I.C. Religious Education.

Send your tuition to: (do not put your payment in the collection basket)

Deborah S. Oulman
608 Birch St.
Riceville, Iowa 50466

Authorization and Release to Media

Parishes/schools ask parents/guardians to sign a Release and Authorization form for the use of any videos, photographs or similar items used by the parish or cluster on a parish web page or other parish publication.

RELEASE AND AUTHORIZATION

I understand that by signing this Release and Authorization I hereby grant authority to

_____ for the use of any videos, photographs, or
(parish/school)

similar items in which my child/children might appear, or statements made by them, to be used on the parish website, parish bulletin, or parish social media.

Note: No children's names will be published in social media without specific prior consent.

Parent/Guardian's signature

Date