

# New Policies For High School Faith Formation Programs

## 2016-2017



### **Strong Catholic Families: Strong Catholic Youth**

*The research on teens and faith cannot be clearer: parents matter...a lot! So what is the Church doing to engage and partner with parents in supporting them in their rightful role as primary formators of faith for their family? And what can parents do to take ownership for leading their children and teens toward a vibrant faith that embraces discipleship?*

Welcome to a new and exciting year. We look forward to engaging and supporting your family in our formation program and welcome everyone to be a part of this new and exciting journey.

Each student in every year level, will be required to complete:

- **Family Retreat**
  - 9<sup>th</sup> year requirement – Choice of retreat or 2 Mornings of Prayer – with parents
  - 10<sup>th</sup> year requirement – Choice of retreat or 2 Mornings of Prayer - with parents
  - 11<sup>th</sup> year requirement – Confirmation Retreat on Saturday, October 8 or October 15  
At Sacred Heart Center from 9 am to 5 pm.
- **Family Enrichment Hours**
  - 9<sup>th</sup> year requirement – 4 hours
  - 10<sup>th</sup> year requirement – 4 hours
  - 11<sup>th</sup> year requirement – 4 hours
  - If you do more than the requirement, it may be counted towards the Individual Enrichment Hours.
- **Individual Enrichment Hours**
  - 9<sup>th</sup> year requirement – 2 hours
  - 10<sup>th</sup> year requirement – 2 hours
  - 11<sup>th</sup> year requirement – 4 hours
  - These hours cannot count as Family Enrichment Hours.
- **Service Ministry Hours**
  - 9<sup>th</sup> year requirement – 4 hours
  - 10<sup>th</sup> year requirement – 6 hours
  - 11<sup>th</sup> year requirement – 10 hours

### Individual Year Requirements

#### 9<sup>th</sup> Year

Retreat/2 morning sessions-w/parents  
Family Enrichment Hours – 4  
Individual Enrichment Hours – 2  
Service Ministry Hours – 4

#### 10<sup>th</sup> Year

Retreat/2 morning sessions-w/parents  
Family Enrichment Hours – 4  
Individual Enrichment Hours – 2  
Service Ministry Hours – 6

#### 11<sup>th</sup> Year

**October 8 or 15, 2016**

Confirmation Retreat-w/parents  
Family Enrichment Hours – 4  
Individual Enrichment Hours – 4  
Service Ministry Hours – 10

## **Family Retreats**

Family Retreat are retreat experiences that families share together. **YOU MUST REGISTER FOR THESE BY FILLING OUT CARD.**

**9<sup>th</sup> year or 10<sup>th</sup> year Formation** must complete one of the following retreats **or** two of the Mornings of Prayer:

### **High School Student/Parents Retreat Schedule**

- September 17, 2016 – St. Michael Hall - 9:30 AM - 5:30 PM
- October 29, 2016 – St. Michael Parish Hall - 9:30AM - 5:30 PM
- January 28, 2017 – St. Michael Parish Hall - 9:30 AM - 5:30 PM

### **High School PSR Mornings of Prayer Schedule**

- October 1, 2016 – SPC Cafeteria – 9:00 AM – NOON
- November 12, 2016 – SPC Cafeteria – 9:00 AM – NOON
- January 21, 2017 – SPC Cafeteria – 9:00 AM – NOON

**11<sup>th</sup> year Formation** must attend one of the Confirmation Retreats:

**October 8 or 15, 2016 – Sacred Heart Center - 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM**

## **Family Enrichment Hours**

Family Enrichment Hours are experiences that families share in our community that enriches their lives as well as the lives of the community. Students and families attend or participate in these events to fulfill the requirements. There are several options in fulfilling these and you may participate in more than one.

- 11<sup>th</sup> year formation students and parents may attend one or more of the **Mornings of Prayer** on
  - October 1, 2016 – SPC Cafeteria – 9:00 AM – NOON
  - November 12, 2016 – SPC Cafeteria – 9:00 AM – NOON
  - January 21, 2017 – SPC Cafeteria – 9:00 AM – NOON**YOU MUST REGISTER FOR THESE BY CALLING MRS. MISSY.**
- Student and parents from St. Michael's may attend **The Living Rosary** on Sunday, October 23 at 6:30 in St. Michael Parish Hall.
- Students and parents may attend **World Youth Day** on **Sunday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>** at Our Lady of Mercy, in Baton Rouge. Day will begin at 12 noon, Mass at 2 pm and end at 6:30 pm.
- Students and parents may attend **African American Youth Conference** in November in Baton Rouge at the Diocese. Please check with Deacon Alfred Adams for more details.
- Students and parents may attend the **Family Mission**, which is scheduled for **November 14-16** at St. Michael Church. Fr. Maurice Nutt will be the presenter. The mission will be held each evening at St. Michael beginning at 7 pm.
- Students and parents may attend **Abbey Youth Festival** on **March 25, 2017** at St. Joseph Abbey in Covington. More details of time and cost will be available closer to date.
- If students attend any of the above Family Enrichment Hours **without** their parents, it is considered individual enrichment hours.

## **Individual Enrichment Hours**

Individual Enrichment Hours are experiences that enrich your spiritual life as well as the lives of the community. There are several options in fulfilling these and you may participate in more than one.

- Attend any of the Family Enrichment Hours **without** parents or any hours over the required 4 hours.
  - The Living Rosary
  - World Youth Day
  - African American Youth Conference
  - Family Mission
  - Abbey Youth Festival
- Students can minister at any of the Liturgies (Masses) in **an assigned ministry**. Any hours over the required amount may count as Service Ministry Hours.  
Examples:
  - Join a choir or become an altar server.
- Students can volunteer to be **an aide** for one of the Elementary Formation Programs. Contact Mrs. Donna (SJ), Mrs. Harriet(SH) or Miss Carol Ann(SM).
- Students may attend one of the following and must get an adult participating (other than your relative) to sign your sheet.
  - **Adoration** – at the Lutcher Chapel
  - **Tuesday Novena** – 4:30 pm at the St. Michael Grotto
  - **Wednesday Rosary** – 6:30 pm at the St. Michael Church
  - **First Saturday Devotion** – 8:00 am at St. Michael Church
- Students may volunteer as **a leader for Vacation Bible School** on June 19-23, 2017 at the St. Peter Chanel Cafeteria. Any hours over the required amount, may be counted as Service Ministry Hours.

## Service Ministry Hours

Service Ministry is an experience where you perform a needed service for an individual or organization *within our parish cluster*. Below is a list of the acceptable experiences. **If it is not listed below, than it does not count, without prior consent from Deacon Alfred Adams, Fr. Vincent Dufresne, Fr. Alec Sheldon or Melissa Laurent.** **This is to help build our Church community and the Kingdom of God here on the River Road.** We encourage that hours in this area be earned in **at least 2 different ministries**. This will help you to volunteer and experience many of the different ministries available. Time served is time earned. You cannot earn extra time if you did a good job, as a good job should always be done.

- Altar Server – Contact the pastoral center
- Choir Member – Contact the choir leader for that choir.
- Usher – See head usher at that Mass, you will receive 15 minutes of service each time you usher. 4 times equal one hour.
- Aide for a PSR Program – Contact Mrs. Donna (SJ), Mrs. Harriet(SH) or Miss Carol Ann(SM).
- Aide for Children’s Church – Contact Mrs. Donna Waguespack
- Aide for First Reconciliation Retreat on TBA– Contact Mrs. Donna(SJ), Mrs. Harriet(SH) or Miss Carol Ann(SM)
- Aide for First Eucharist Retreat on TBA– Contact Mrs. Donna(SJ), Mrs. Harriet(SH) or Miss Carol Ann(SM)
- Leader for Vacation Bible School in June – Contact Mrs. Donna
- Volunteer to work for the St. Michael Church Fair on October 3/4 – Contact Deacon Alfred
- Volunteer to work for the Cluster Picnic at Lucher Park – Contact Mrs. Missy
- Volunteer to work at any of the Parish Blood Drives – Contact Brenda Huguet(SM), Carl Dornier(SJ), Baron Bunch(SH)
- Volunteer to work at any Catholic Daughter Function (Receptions for: 1<sup>st</sup> Communion, Confirmation, Senior Mass, Christmas Party, etc) – Contact Theresa Roussel
- Volunteer to work at the St. Vincent DePaul (Store, Food Pantry, Uniform Give Away, Food Collection) – Contact Gene Louque or Emery Forsyth
- Volunteer to work at St. Peter Chanel Spring Festival March 10-12, 2017 – Contact Chanel School
- Volunteer to work at KC Functions (Bingo, Monthly Dinner) – Contact Barry Weber
- Volunteer to work at the Prayer Garden (Contact Anne Detillier) or one of our Churches gardens (Contact the pastoral center)
- Volunteer to work St. Michael Bingo – Contact Deacon Alfred Adams
- Volunteer to assist in cleaning one of our parish Churches – Contact Rachelle Oubre at the Pastoral Center
- Volunteer to help at any of the Church Parishes or Church Functions – These will be listed in bulletin as available.
- Volunteer to assist prison ministry with wrapping gifts at Christmas time – Contact Nancy Bourgeois 869-4369
- Volunteer to work at the St. Vincent DePaul Dining room in Baton Rouge. Dates will be announced at class and via email.

You may volunteer for any of the following experiences, however **only 2 hours** of a **non-church related ministry** can be earned. Example: 11 year sessions requires 10 ministry hours. 8 hours must be earned in the above experiences and **2** hours can be earned in any of the following.

- Riverlands Nursing Home – Contact 869-5725 services needed are: Help with Bingo, arts & crafts, decorating bulletin boards and for parties; and planned visitation of residents.
- The Lions Club – Services needed are: Help unloading pumpkins for Pumpkin Patch; turning pumpkins every other day; collecting money at Petting Zoo; working the 10-K run along with the Sheriff Office.
- Volunteer for any non-profit organization – Example: Public Schools, St. James Hospital, Fund Raisers, etc.

## Confirmation

Students wishing to be presented for Confirmation must be baptized and registered in the parishes. They must have completed religious education for grades 1 through 10, and must attend sacramental preparation classes for Confirmation. This is in addition to their normal religious education.

August 21, 2016 - Sacred Heart Church, Gramercy

6:30 - 8:00 PM Confirmation Session for Student & Parent

September 25, 2016- Rite of Welcoming for Confirmation Students & Sponsors

8:30 AM - St. Michael

11:00 AM - St. Joseph

5:00 PM - Sacred Heart

October 8, 2016 - Confirmation Retreat

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM at Sacred Heart

October 15, 2016 - Confirmation Retreat

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM at Sacred Heart

November 13, 2016 - Sacred Heart Church,

6:30 - 8:00 PM Confirmation Session for Student & Sponsor

February 12, 2017 - Confirmation Practice at St. Joseph

12 Noon for students & sponsors making Confirmation at St. Joseph

February 12, 2017 - Confirmation Practice at Sacred Heart

6:00 PM for students & sponsors making Confirmation at Sacred Heart.

February 20, 2017 - 6:30 PM – Sacred Heart, Gramercy

Celebration of Confirmation (Sacred Heart and St. Michael)

February 21, 2017 - 6:30 PM - St. Joseph

Celebration of Confirmation (St. Joseph)

# **Policies for Youth Faith Formation in the Cluster**

## **Dress Code**

It is the obligation of our church parishes to provide a proper educational and religious atmosphere which shall be conducive to the learning process as well as spiritual growth and morality. Students, teachers, and staff have the right to be free from distractions which hinder the learning process and go against the moral code. No mode of attire will be considered proper for school wear that distracts from or disrupts classroom and school decorum. The DRE makes the final decision as to what is considered proper or improper dress according to the guidelines provided.

The Parish Staff believe it is the responsibility of each student to use good judgment in one's total appearance so that the attention of others is not distracted from the purpose of the school.

Cleanliness shall be a basic consideration.

*Boys:* Your own school approved uniform or:

a sleeved shirt (no sleeveless) and pant or short (not more than 3" above the knee).

*Girls:* Your own school approved uniform or:

A sleeved shirt (no sleeveless, back less, strapless or low cut) and pant or short/skirt/dress (not more than 3" above the knee).

*Shoes:* No flip flops

Dress Code Offense

1st offense (Grades 1-8)- Pink slip with the type of offense will be sent home with the student.

Grades 9-11 – Student will be sent home.

2nd offense (Grades 1-8) - Parent will be called and student will be sent home.

## **Attendance Policies**

It is the obligation of our parishes to provide a consistent and enriching program for our students. Students are expected to attend class regularly and to be on time. Parents are expected to bring and pick up their children on time. Beginning this year, students will be allowed to have 3 unexcused absences. Parents are to send a written excuse with the student upon returning to class. The DRE will determine if the absence is excused or unexcused. If no written excuse is turned in, then the absence will automatically be unexcused.

**Make-up work** - Upon returning to class the student will be given a photo copy of the lesson he/she missed, to take home and complete for the following class. Parents must sign the completed assignment.