

ST. MARK FAITH FORMATION

August 2019

Where has the time gone? I cannot believe that it is already the middle of August! I hope you are all enjoying these last few days of summer. Thank you to those that have already registered your children for religious education classes for this year. For those that have not, we ask that you do so soon so we can better prepare for the year. We do not have a program for paying tuition online, so we ask that payments be sent to the parish office or brought with to RE class.

Thank you to all that made Totus Tuus a success this summer. We have only heard wonderful things and it seems the youth really enjoyed it and learned a lot! Please return the survey emailed out as soon as possible so we can begin planning for next year.

Once again, I have a special request as you begin your back to school shopping. Please save your shoe boxes for a special project that we will be doing again this year. The shoe boxes can be brought to the parish office during open hours, brought with your child the first night of RE class, or dropped off in the cry room during Mass.

Family (and Adult) Faith Formation...

We will continue to offer some fun opportunities throughout the year for all of our families to enjoy together. We hope you will be able to join us occasionally for these events.

- **Who Am I to Judge**

This great 8 week video & discussion study will be held at St. Mark this fall. Please watch the bulletin and our Facebook page (StMark Iowa-Falls) as details are finalized.

- **FORMED**

Did you know that our linkage is subscribed to FORMED? We have purchased access for all parishioners, so it is FREE for you! Choose from a wide variety of entertaining movies, enlightening programs, inspiring talks, and a great selection of popular ebooks—all just a click away! It's EASY and FREE to Register, and there is even an app for your digital devices.

Go to www.franklinhardincatholic.formed.org

Click "Register"

Enter your name, email address, and desired password

You're all ready to access the inspiring and engaging content on FORMED!

Sacramental Prep

- **Confirmation**

- Final class & rehearsal held at St. Mary (Eldora) – on **Sunday, August 25**

Must bring your sponsor or a proxy

Arrive by 11:40, we plan to be done at 2:00

- If you haven't already you need to set up your exit interview ASAP

- Be finalizing your saint report, service hours, and homily notes

- Celebration of the sacrament will be on **Saturday, September 7** at St. Mary, Eldora (6:30pm)

Be there with your sponsor by 6:10pm

- **Eucharist (2nd grade students)**

- An informational meeting will be held for all parents of 2nd grade students on Wednesday, September 4 at 6:30pm in the church.

Grades Kindergarten thru 5

- **Registration is now open!** RE registration will be online again this year. The link is the same as last year (www.myschoolsystems.com/ArchDBQ/DBQ108/registration.php?who=student), and you should still be able to sign in with your username and password to register. If you have any difficulties, please let me know. Please register your students soon so we can be properly prepared for the year.
- **MaginifKid...** These Mass tools are back!! Be sure to encourage your children in grades Pre-K through Grade 3 to grab these to help them follow along at Mass. The materials may be helpful during prayer time and other times of conversation during the week as well.
- **Class Schedule...**
 - Wednesday, August 28 – FIRST RE CLASS (6:15-7:30pm)
 - Wednesday, September 4 (6:15-7:30pm)
 - Wednesday, September 11 (6:15-7:30pm)
 - Wednesday, September 18 (6:15-7:30pm)
 - Wednesday, September 25 – NO RE (Christian Concert in Park)
 - Wednesday, October 2 (6:15-7:30pm)
 - RE Family Mass (6:30pm)
- **Youth Led Ministries...** We will be resuming the weekend Masses when our students are assigned to lead the ministries, except we are switching weekends. These Masses will now be held the **third weekend of the month**. Our first one for this academic year will be on **Sunday, September 15 (10:30am)**. A schedule will be sent out once classes have begun to be sure to include any new students.

Grades 6 through 8

- **Registration is now open!** RE registration will be online again this year. The link is the same as last year (www.myschoolsystems.com/ArchDBQ/DBQ108/registration.php?who=student), and you should still be able to sign in with your username and password to register. If you have any difficulties, please let me know. Please register your students soon so we can be properly prepared for the year.
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- **Youth Ministry...** We will return to having activities held on Sunday nights. Please continue to watch the bulletin, text message, and snapchat for scheduled activities. Our next gathering will be this Sunday (August 18) in the youth center 6:30-8:00pm.

Grades 9 thru 12

- **Registration is now open!** RE registration will be online again this year. The link is the same as last year (www.myschoolsystems.com/ArchDBQ/DBQ108/registration.php?who=student), and you should still be able to sign in with your username and password to register. If you have any

difficulties, please let me know. Please register your students soon so we can be properly prepared for the year.

- **Class Schedule...**
 - Sunday, August 25 – Confirmation class @ rehearsal @ Eldora (noon-2:00pm)
 - Sunday, September 4 (4:00-7:00pm)
 - Wednesday, October 2 (6:15-7:30pm)
RE Family Mass (6:30pm)
- **Youth Led Ministries...** We will be resuming the weekend Masses when our students are assigned to lead the ministries, except we are switching weekends. These Masses will now be held the **third weekend of the month**. Our first one for this academic year will be on **Sunday, September 15 (10:30am)**. A schedule will be sent out once classes have begun to be sure to include any new students.
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- **NCYC Time...** Be sure to have our September gathering on your calendar as these are mandatory for all participants.
 - SCRIP – All sales during the month of August go toward NCYC. Be sure to take advantage of this with your back to school shopping. Any questions, please contact Cheri Geitz or myself.
 - We will be serving supper during the Christian concert on September 25. Watch your email for more details.

We do encourage you to take a look at the attached calendar and be sure to put pertinent dates on your calendars. It would be nice to have all parents in attendance at our RE Family Masses the first Wednesday of each month as Fr. Does a great job of explaining the “why’s” that many of us do not remember and maybe together we can become more comfortable in the knowledge of our faith.

For those that like Google calendars, below is the link for our St. Mark Faith Formation calendar. This will be the best resource as to when events will be happening in our parish (for all ages). Please let me know if you have any trouble seeing the calendar.

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar?cid=ZGJxYXJjaC5vcmdfMW51Y3VkaGJxdDFjdjA2MTg5aDdiOG12anNAZ3JvdXAuY2FsZW5kYXluZ29vZ2xILmNvbQ>

Looking forward to another great year!!

Brenda Strayer
St. Mark Director of Faith Formation

Faith Formation Calendar of Events at St. Mark

August

- **Wednesday, August 28**
RE CLASSES BEGIN - Kindergarten – Grade 6 (6:15-7:30pm)

September

- **Wednesday, September 4**
RE CLASS (6:15-7:30pm)
- **Saturday, September 7**
Confirmation Celebration @ St. Mary, Eldora (6:30pm)
- **Sunday, September 8**
NCYC Gathering @ St. Mark Parish Hall (5:00-7:00pm)
- **Wednesday, September 11**
RE CLASS (6:15-7:30pm)
- **Sunday, September 15**
Youth Led Ministries (10:30am)
High School RE/YM (4:00-7:00pm) – PLEASE NOTE TIME CHANGE
- **Wednesday, September 18**
RE CLASS (6:15-7:30pm)
- **Wednesday, September 25**
NO RE CLASS
NCYC Meal Fundraiser
Christian Concert in Park

October

- **Wednesday, October 2**
RE Class (6:15-7:30pm)
RE Family Mass (6:30pm)
- **Sunday, October 6**
Youth Led Ministries at Mass (6:30pm)