Welcome to Our Parent Night Creating Catholic Disciples Sept. 11, 2024

OUR VISION & MISSION

3-4

PARENTS & CATECHIST ROLES IN FAITH FORMATION

agenda

2024-2025 CALENDAR

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St Thomas the Apostle Our Vision

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Community strives to radiate the true spirit of Jesus Christ at all times to all people, especially the poor and needy. We embrace our cultural differences while celebrating our oneness in Christ. Our focus is to include all ages through opportunities of education and evangelization to reach the ultimate goal of glorifying God's name in word and deed.

Our Mission Statement

IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST, ST. THOMAS THE **APOSTLE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY WELCOMES PRAYS** FEEDS HEALS **COMFORTS**

ALL!

Parents Role in Children's Faith Formation

Parents are the most influential agent of catechesis for their children (Catechism of the Catholic Church, nos.2222-2226).

You have the unique responsibility for the education of your children; you are the first educators, or catechists. You catechize primarily by the witness of your Christian lives and by your love for the faith" (National Directory for Catechesis, pg. 234).

Parents Role in Children's Faith Formation

In the Scriptures, God commands parents to educate their children in faith: "Therefore, you shall love the Lord, you God, with your whole heart, and with your whole being, and with your whole strength. Take to heart these words which I command you today. Keep repeating them to your children." (Duet. 6: 5-7)

Catechists Role in Children's Faith Formation

1) The word catechesis comes from the Greek meaning "to echo the teaching" meaning that catechesis or the teaching of the faith is an interactive process in which the Word of God resounds between and among the proclaimer, the one receiving the message, and the Holy Spirit!

Catechists Role in Children's Faith Formation

2) Our program, Creating Catholic Disciples exists in order to support the parents as the primary educators of your household by providing systematic presentations of the basics of the Catholic faith.

Catechists Role in Children's Faith Formation

3) When this systematic presentation resonates with your children's lived experience of the faith in your homes, it becomes deeply meaningful and last a lifetime.

St. Thomas the Apostle Catechists 2024-2025

Grade	Catechist	Grade	Catechist
First	Sandy Sickinger	Ninth	Connie Ninneman
Second	Karean VanEss-Wagner	Tenth	Elizabeth Siikarla
Third	Barb Dehne	Eleventh/Twelfth	Cathylee Dreiling
Fourth	Jessica Vogel	Twelfth Assistant	Ann Hoban
Fifth	Meredith Putman	1-8 Substitute	Stacy Klotz
Sixth	Jean Karstaedt	1-9 Substitute	Brandy Wallander
Seventh	Abby & Cory Hartman	Coordinator Fill-in	Connie Ninneman
Eight	Diane Hartman	Coordinator Fill-In	Jane Lensmire

A Special Welcome

- Parents of our First Grade Children
- Parents of our First Communion Children
- Parents of our Confirmation Youth
- All Parents of our Children

Religious Education Classes 2024-2025

WEDNESDAYS

• Arrival 6:00-6:15pm

• 6:15-7:45pm Mass 7:15-7:45 starting Nov. 6th

• Grades 1-5 Alternating Wednesdays

• Grades 6-9

SUNDAYS

- 8:00am Mass & Class Instruction till 10:30am
- Faith Witnesses & Fr. Dave Quest Time
- Grade 10&11and Grade 12 meet two Sundays a month (see calendar)

SACRAMENTS

- Confirmation-Jan. 25 (Practice-Jan.19) St. Francis of Assisi
- Reconciliation-Begin with Second Grade Jan.22nd
- First Communion-May 3rd or 4th TBD

Calendar Highlights 2024-2025

www.stthomasnewton.org

Family Mass Grades 1-12

Sept. 18th

Ice-Cream Social ©

Confirmation Retreat Grades 10-12

Jan. 11

Wynncliff

9:00am-5:30pm

https://www.wynncliff.org/

Second Grade - Discover God's Treasure Bag - Take home Backpack tonight!

Reconciliation folder

Due Jan. 15th (Reconciliation Jan 22nd)

• Eucharist folder

Due April 1st

First Communion Banners

Due April 1st

• First Communion Retreat

April 26th

St. Thomas the Apostle 9-2:30pm

First Communion

May 3rd or 4th TBD

Family Mass Grades 1-12

April 30th

Pizza Social ©

Curriculum 2024-2025

What's our main curriculum?

- Grades 1-8: Christ Our Life-Loyola Press
- High School, Grades 9-12: The Catholic Faith Handbook for Youth, Third Edition, St. Mary's Press
- Any extra supplementary materials follow our Religion Standards

Our Curriculum:

- Provides sound Catholic teaching
- Follows the guidelines set forth by the Diocese of Green Bay
- Utilizes textbooks approved by Bishop Ricken
- Meets the number of hours of instruction required by the Diocese, 30-35 hours in each academic year
- Prepares our students for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Eucharist, and Confirmation

Safety Standards & Safe Environment

- > Be Here for Kids
- > Emergency Evacuation Map
- > Run-Hide-Fight
- > Fire Drill Practice-Fall & Spring
- Tornado & Severe Weather Drill Practice-Fall& Spring
- Awareity-Safe Environment Reporting System through the Diocese of Green Bay
- Virtus-Ongoing training for Catechist & Volunteers & Background Checks



Forms & Volunteer Opportunities

- ✓ Registration Forms for Enrollment
- ✓ Family Mass, Sept. 18th Cross Bearer & 2-Servers Needed
- ✓ Confirmation Retreat Helpers
- ✓ First Communion Retreat Helpers
- ✓ RE Catechist / Sub / Room Helper



Family Handbook 2024-2025

- APPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR
- SAFE ENVIRONMENT
- **DISCIPLINE** STOP, THINK, PRAY, CHOOSE
- STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT SIGN AT FIRST CLASS
- PROGRAM INFORMATION
- CANCELLATIONS

Resource:

Catholic Prayer for Catholic Families-Welcoming God Into Your Home with Prayer

Check Pages 50-53

Chart to see prayers by Age Groups

Birth-Age 2 thru Grade 8 (Age 13)

Q&A

Any Questions?

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Community 920-726-4228 Creating Catholic Disciples www.stthomasnewton.org

Cathylee Dreiling
Religious Education & All Education
Opportunities
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The Family Prayer Song
As for Me & My House,
We Will Serve The Lord