

THE CHURCH OF ST. GREGORY THE GREAT

2010-2011 CHRISTIAN FORMATION

The Office of Religious Education and the ministers who serve the parish in the Catechetical Ministry are dedicated to spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ through teaching, action, witness and responsible commitment of self. Our goals are that of planting seeds, assisting parents, and of course, being a place of spiritual refuge and learning to the lives that we touch. We do this with the understanding of the diverse cultures and levels of our brothers and sisters in Christ, Jesus.

– Mission Statement

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CALENDAR FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

For the 2010 - 2011 School Year

SEPTEMBER	28	First class for entire program Confirmation orientation / Assembly Room Orientation for program in church
OCTOBER	5 12 19 26	Music for All Saints / Mr. Gary Gompers
NOVEMBER	2 9 16 23 30	Off
DECEMBER	7 14 21 28	Jesse Tree pot luck dinner Off Off
JANUARY	4 11 18 25	Right to Life speaker (Grades 6 - 12)
FEBRUARY	1 8 15 22	
MARCH	1 8 15 22 29	NO CLASS / Mission Week
April	5 12 19	

CLASSES ARE HELD FROM 6:30 PM UNTIL 7:30 PM.

If there is an occurrence of inclement weather we will follow the schedule of the Virginia Beach Public Schools for that given day concerning closure.

The C.I.C.C.A. program for children over the age of 7 who have never been baptized nor had any previous catechesis will follow the Religious Education Program Calendar and times with added rites throughout the year.

SACRAMENTAL CLASSES

RECONCILIATION/ PENANCE

“ Jesus began his risen life by giving the Apostles power to forgive sins. The sacrament of Penance continues His work of forgiving and reconciling. It celebrates the prodigal’s return to the eternally merciful Father, renewing the sinner's union with God and also, with the community, in as much as, our sins harm our brothers and sisters.” – NCD

Parents and students are expected to attend the following WORKSHOP for parents and RETREAT for children:

- Saturday, November 20 from 9 a.m. until 12 Noon.

Students will meet in the SCHOOL.

Parents will meet in the ASSEMBLY ROOM (Paschal Hall).

All parents must bring a COPY of their child’s /children’s Baptismal certificate to the workshop. This meeting is mandatory for all students and parents.

- Reception of the sacrament of First Penance: December 4 at 9 a.m.

FIRST EUCHARIST/COMMUNION

“Eucharist and Church are the basic realities, bearing the same names; communion and Body of Christ. The Eucharist increases charity within the visible community.” – NCD

Parents and students are expected to attend the following WORKSHOP for parents and RETREAT for children:

- Saturday, March 26 from 9 a.m. until 12 noon

Students will meet in the school

Parents will meet in the ASSEMBLY ROOM (Paschal Hall).

All parents must bring a COPY of their child's/children's Baptismal certificate to the workshop, if not previously provided for the sacrament of First Reconciliation. This meeting is mandatory for all parents and students receiving First Eucharist (Communion).

- Rehearsal for First Eucharist is:

Thursday evening, May 5 at 6:00 p.m. in the church.

- Reception of the Sacrament of First Eucharist is:

Saturday, May 7.

- Children whose last name begins with A through L will celebrate at the 8:30 a.m. mass.
- Children whose last name begins with M through Z will celebrate at the 11 a.m. mass.

CONFIRMATION

“ Confirmation emphasized the transformation of life by the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in His fullness. Confirmed Christians claim fully as their own, the new life into which they were first initiated at Baptism” – NCD

ALL CANDIDATES must be PRE-REGISTERED for classes which will begin on:

September 28th
in the ASSEMBLY ROOM (Paschal Hall).

The Confirmation Schedule will follow the Religious Education schedule for the 2010/2011 school year.

Confirmation rehearsal and liturgy will be announced at a later date at the discretion of the Bishop.

BAPTISM

“Preparation for Baptism of infants is a ‘teachable’ moment, when the Parish Community can encourage parents to re-examine the meaning which faith has in their lives. In offering catechesis to parents and sponsors the Church shows its love for and eagerness to support them, as well as, their children.” – NCD

Because we are sensitive to the needs of parents we make Baptism a priority of our community. Pre-Baptism classes are held the last Tuesday of every month, while Baptism takes place every Sunday during the year. Arrangements should be made in advance of the classes by calling the office.

MATRIMONY

“Husbands and wives become signs, into the world of God's love for His people.”
– NCD

Realizing the need for advanced planning, couples contemplating marriage are to make arrangements at the parish offices one year prior to insure quality and dates.

SACRAMENTAL MARRIAGE

There are many Catholics who married civilly but not sacramentally in the church. If you would like more information about having your marriage blessed by the church, call Julie Abbate (497-8330) in our church office.

MARRIAGE ANNULMENTS

An annulment is a declaration by a Tribunal to the Church that a marriage never legally existed as a sacramental union according to canon law. If you find yourself in this situation where your marriage was not a marriage, please contact Julie Abbate (497-8330) in our church office for more information.

ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The Church of St. Gregory the Great has many adult study opportunities throughout the year. These programs are designed to meet the many needs and interests of all people in our parish community. For more information contact the Religious Education Office at 499-4494.

Following is a list of the ongoing programs which meet weekly:

- Wednesdays: Scripture Study

In addition to these weekly programs, there will be PARENT SESSIONS held on Tuesday evenings, 6:30 pm until 7:30 pm starting September 28. These sessions will cover a wide variety of topics.

- Confirmation for Adults: Many Catholic adults find for various reasons that they did not receive their Confirmation and sometimes even Eucharist in their formative years. These classes are also great refresher courses for confirmed Catholics who wish to update their knowledge of church. St. Gregory recognizes this and offers classes on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m .

- Catechist Formation Classes are held periodically throughout the year for all catechists and all parishioners. Watch the bulletin and flyers for more information.

- The Parish Mission will take place during the Lenten season. Make sure you set aside this week for a prayerful and spiritual experience. Watch the bulletin and flyers for more information.

- The Landings Program welcomes inactive Catholics back to the practice of the sacraments and greater involvement in the life of the parish.

- Small Faith Sharing Communities are in practice. Groups of 8-12 adults gather weekly to pray together, discuss faith and encourage and care for one another. Watch the church bulletin for more information.

Stay alert for many more opportunities in adult formation.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) 2010-2011

Date	Time	Topic	Presenter
August 8	7-9 PM	Wine and cheese / Coffee and Dessert	RCIA Team

Period of Evangelization and Pre-catechumenate Sessions

Ordinary Time

August 29	9:00 AM	Welcoming / Why did you come? CCA Ch 1, pp. 1-9	RCIA Team with
September 5	9:00 AM	Intro to Scripture and Prayer / The Invitation to Jesus Catholic Basics: Bibles and Elementary Prayers	Dr. Bob Schihl and Julie Abbate
12	9:00 AM	Revelation: Scripture CCA Ch 2, pp. 10-19 Catholic Basics: The Sign of the Cross	Dr. Graham Hudgins
19	9:00 AM	Revelation: Tradition CCA Ch 3, pp. 22-33 Catholic Basics: Gesture and Posture	Dr. Bob Schihl
26	9:00 AM	Trinity: One God, Three Persons, Abba CCA Ch 5, pp. 49-63 Catholic Basics: Blessed Articles - Holy Water, Oil, etc.	Dr. Graham Hudgins
October 3	9:00 AM	Jesus: Salvation CCA Ch 7-8, pp. 77-100 Catholic Basics: Sacred Images, Statues	Dr. Rob Beardsworth
10	9:00 AM	The Holy Spirit: Empowerer CCA Ch 9, pp. 101-110 Catholic Basics: Fasting and Abstinence	Dr. Graham Hudgins
17	9:00 AM	The Church: Ecclesiology, Communion of Saints CCA Ch 10-11, pp. 111-139 Catholic Basics: Stations of the Cross	Dr. Rob Beardsworth
24	9:00 AM	The Role of the Church in History	Susan Igareda

	31	9:00 AM	Mary: Mother of Jesus, Mother of God CCA Ch 12, pp. 141-149 Catholic Basics: Vocation to the Religious Life	Sr. Mary, IHM
November	7	9:00 AM	TBA Catholic Basics: Marian Apparitions	Dr. Bob Schihl
	14	9:00 AM	Prayer in the Life of the Christian CCA Ch 35-6, pp. 461-495; Prayers, see pp. 532-530 Catholic Basics: Saints, Patron Saints, Guardian Angels	Dr. Bob Schihl
	21	9:00 AM	Rite of Welcome / The Prayer of the Church The Church's "Year of Grace" CCA Ch 14, pp. 165-179 Catholic Basics: Seasonal Customs/Devotions	Paul Minner
	28	9:00 AM	Thanksgiving Weekend No Class	
Advent Time				
PERIOD OF CATECHUMENATE				
December	5	9:00 AM	The Sacraments CCA Ch 22, pp. 293-303 Catholic Basics: The Sacramentals	Paul Minner
	12	9:00 AM	Baptism CCA Ch 15, pp. 181-199 Catholic Basics: Holy Water Fonts, Sprinkling	Dr. Graham Hudgins
	19	9:00 AM	Confirmation CCA Ch 16, pp. 200-211 Catholic Basics: Holy Oils, Anointings	Frank Marlow
	26		Christmas Break / No Class	
January	2	9:00 AM	Eucharist: Mass, Meal, Sacrifice, Presence CCA Ch 17, pp. 213-232 Catholic Basics: Receiving Communion	Dr. Rob Beardsworth
	9	9:00 AM	Reconciliation CCA Ch 18, pp. 233-247 Catholic Basics: Going to Confession	Fr. Cristiano Brito, OSB

January	16	9:00 AM	Anointing of the Sick and Healing CCA Ch 19, pp. 249-259 Catholic Basics: When to Call a Priest	Paul Minner
	23	9:00 AM	Vocation I: Marriage and the Single Life and Divorce CCA Ch 21, pp. 277-292; Ch. 28, pp373-385; Ch30, pp 403-416 Catholic Basics: Nullify Marriage	Neil McNulty
	30	9:00 AM	Vocation II: Holy Orders and the Religious life CCA Ch 20, pp. 261-275 Catholic Basics: Discerning a Vocation/Getting started	Fr. Mario Fulgenzi
February	6	9:00 AM	Life Issues CCA Ch 29, pp. 387-402; Ch 6 pp 65-75 Catholic Basics: Pro-Life Ministries Involvement	Joshua Dart
	13	9:00 AM	Morality I: Sin and Guilt CCA Ch 23, pp. 307-321; Ch 25 pp 339-349; Ch 26, pp 351-359; Ch 27, pp 361-371 Catholic Basics: Mortal sins; Venial sins	Dr. Bob Schihl
	20	9:00 AM	Morality II: Decision-Making and Controversial Questions CCA Ch 24, pp. 323-337; Ch 31 pp 417-428; Ch 28, pp 429-438; Ch 33, pp 439-446 Catholic Basics:	Dr. Bob Schihl
Lenten Time				
February	27	9:00 AM	Rite of Sending / Justice and Peace CCA Ch 34, pp. 445-447	Sue Bucher
March	5	9 AM-3 PM	Retreat and Sacrament of Reconciliation Catholic Basics: Examination of Conscience	
	6	9:00 AM	Human Sexuality / Natural Family Planning CCA Ch 30, pp 404-416; Ch 33, pp 439-446 Catholic Basics: Modesty Sexuality	Dr. Bob Schihl Jamie Walker
March	12	2:00 PM	Rite of Election - St. Bede Church, Williamsburg	
March	13		TBA	

March	20		TBA	
	21-24	7:00 PM	Parish Mission with Fr. Michael Sullivan, OSA	
	27	9:00 AM	Scrutiny I/ The Nicene Creed CCA Ch 4, pp. 35-47 Catholic Basics: The "Other" Creed - The Apostles Creed	Br. Tobias
April	3	9:00 AM	Scrutiny II/ Roles in the Church Catholic Basics: Parishes, Dioceses, Archdioceses, Patriarchates, Clergy, Religious, Laity	Paul Minner
	10	9:00 AM	Scrutiny III/ The Holy Triduum	Br. Tobias
	17	9:00 AM	Eschatology / Last Things CCA Ch 13, pp. 142-162	Dr. Bob Schihl
	21		Holy Thursday	
	22		Good Friday	
	23		Holy Saturday / Reception into the Church	
		12 N	Rehearsal at Church	
		8:00 PM	Easter Vigil Mass Reception for Catechumens, Candidates and Friends/Family	
	24		Happy Easter!	

MYSTAGOGIA SESSIONS

Easter Time

May	1	9:00 AM	Resurrection Life Catholic Basics: The Shroud of Turin, The Shroud of Calvary	Dr. Bob Schihl
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SUNDAY MEETING SCHEDULE

9:00 - 9:10	Prayer/Testimonies
9:10 -10:00	Presentation Pt 1
10:00 -10:10	Break
10:10-10:30	Presentation Pt 2
10:30 -10:40	Announcements / Mass

SNOW DAY: Should a city-wide "snow day" occur on a Sunday, there will be no RCIA meeting. Masses will be held as usual.

St. Gregory the Great Office of Religious Education 2010 - 2011

Safety Checklist

1. All children in 4 year old class to grade 5 must be picked up by a parent at the end of each class. For any alternative consideration, only written requests will be considered.
2. In case of fire, the fire drill escape route posted above the light switches in each classroom will be followed.
3. All classroom doors are linked to the main office by a call button located next to the light switch. Teachers will have access to this button for safety reasons.
4. All class rooms will be on lock down when the bell rings promptly at 6:30 PM. If your child is late, note that it will be very disruptive to unlock doors for your tardy child. Please be on time and considerate.
5. If you are picking your child up early, you must check in at the office prior to pick up.
6. Any child who has not been picked up will be brought to the office. Class ends at 7:30 pm and all children should be picked up in a timely fashion.
7. Any child found waiting in the yard around the school building will be brought to the school office.
8. Any child loitering after the first bell will be sent to the office. Parents are asked to vacate the halls after dropping off children. - monitors will be posted in the 3 buildings to enforce this rule.
9. Take your child to the bathroom upon arrival before class begins!!! We have an hour with your children and do not wish to spend any part of that hour in the bathroom. We understand emergencies.
10. Please enter and exit the parking area carefully! No child should be wandering in the parking area looking for parents' cars without supervision. If we see them doing exactly that, they will be brought to the office.
11. If your child is sick during the day, assume he/she is sick in the evening. Keep them home!!
12. Explain why your child is attending CCD. Leave attitudes and unruly behavior at home. We have planned for this hour to be safe, fun and informative for your children.

Students should ideally be enrolled in a Religious Education Program or Catholic School to be eligible for the Sacramental Preparation of Confirmation.

Students in Religious Education are in formation from grades 1 to 9. The study program is as follows:

Grade 1	God as Creator of All Things
Grade 2	God’s Relationship With All /Jesus Our Savior
Grade 3	Community
Grade 4	Morality
Grade 5	Sacraments
Grade 6	Old Testament
Grade 7	Creed
Grade 8	JESUS: Human and Divine / New Testament
Grade 9	God’s Law / Morality

Confirmation will be presented in three (3) modules over 26 weeks. Orientation of parents and candidates for students in grade 10 through 12 will be held on September 28 with classes beginning in force on October 5.

Module One: Susan Igareda

The study of our church's history and how it helps us to better understand our faith and our world. This study will have a culmination of our history with the genocide of jews during World War II as an example of the disregard of life.

Module Two: Marie Rants and Michael González

The study of the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit and Catholic Social Justice through the personification of gifts and the impact of justice issues on the human person. This study will include testimonials of people who have experienced powerful life experiences of one of the seven gifts as well as biographical experiences of people in history who portray one of those gifts.

Module Three: Frank Marlow

The study of church: tradition, prayer, liturgy, liturgical year, saints, vocation, sacramentals, feast days, Trinity and a basic study of why we do as Catholics what we do. This study will also include ongoing news and issues in the Catholic Church.

Students who are presented for Confirmation and have no catechetical background will be asked to attend a course of basic catholic theology. Josh Dart: Basic Catholic Theology.

ST. GREGORY SCHOOL OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Discipline Policy

The Office of Religious Education is very concerned with the catechesis of your children here in our parish community. One of the great concerns is the behavior of our students while here for the ONE hour on Tuesday evenings. To create an environment that is safe and conducive to our mission as catechists, we have developed the following policy.

1. Classes begin promptly at 6:30 PM and end at 7:30 PM. It is very important that students arrive on time and are picked up promptly at 7:30 PM. Four year olds, kindergartners, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th graders will not be released to anyone other than a parent. If there is an alternate person picking up your child you need to send a note granting that person permission to pick up your child. Remember, tardiness is very disruptive not only to the teacher, but also to the other children who arrive on time.
2. Any form of weapon, whether real or play, will absolutely not be tolerated. This occurrence will result in the student being immediately dismissed from the program.
3. If a student is found loitering on the premises they will be immediately dismissed from the program.
4. Any form of substance abuse on the premises will result in immediate dismissal from the program.
5. Any disrespect to the teacher or another student will result in immediate dismissal from the program.
6. All guests must be checked in the office with a letter of permission from the attending student's parents.
7. Students will conduct themselves, while attending class and taking part in special events and liturgies, in an exemplary fashion. If a student shows a lack of respect or cannot manage to control their behavior while here, they will be immediately dismissed from the program.
8. While we know that cell phones are sometimes an important link to parents, we will absolutely not tolerate cell phones in the classrooms. They will be removed from the student and can be picked up by the parent in the school office.

We would like for each and every parent to remind their child/children why they are here on Tuesday evenings. That is to share the Good News and to grow in our faith formation. We wish to do this with joy and celebration. We ask for your full cooperation in this request.

STUDENT'S SIGNATURE: _____

PARENT'S SIGNATURE: _____