

Religious Education

At St. John the Evangelist



CCD / Catechism Classes / Sunday School

Parish Office: (517) 784-0553 711 N. Francis Jackson, Michigan 49201

2016-2017 Handbook

**Meets in St. John School
405 E. North St.**

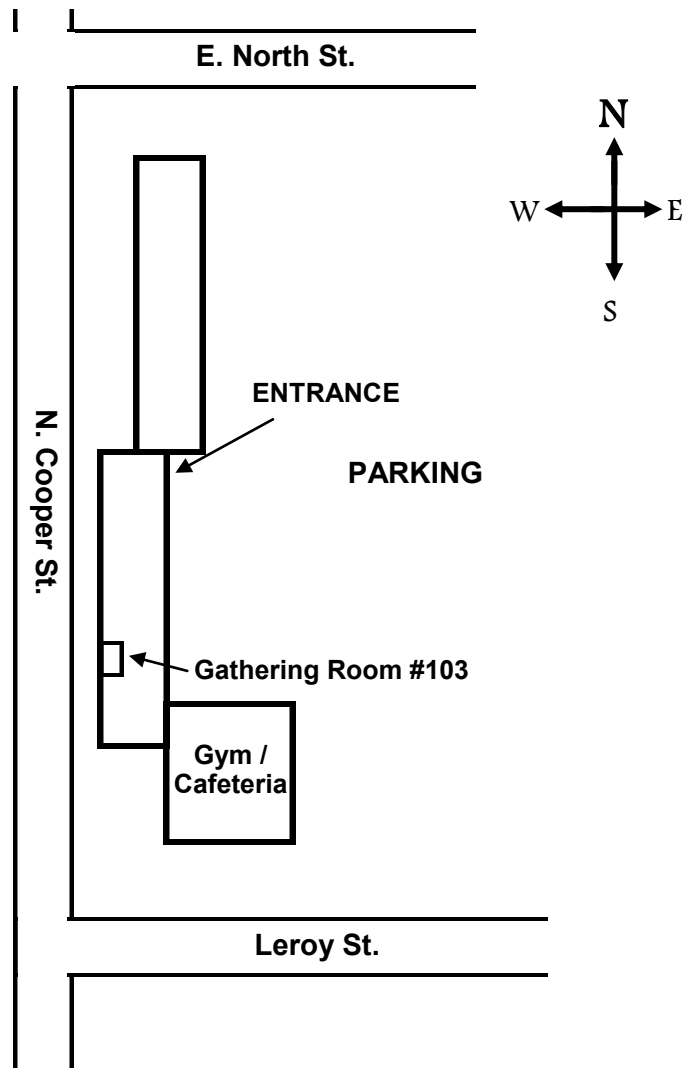
**10:00 Start
11:30 End
Noon Mass**

NOTHING in life is more important than you and your family living in relationship with God. As parents, you are the primary educators of your children. We are here to help. We promise to make the religious education and faith formation of our parish family a meaningful priority... we ask for families to make an equal promise of priority! We will work very hard to assure that at the end of each year students have learned more, loved more, and deepened their friendship with Jesus, and hopefully be inspired to continue with ADULT education for the rest of their lives!

May God bless your families richly!

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Todd Gale



Pastor: Fr. Chas Canoy www.stjohnjackson.org

Director of Faith Formation: Todd Gale todd@stjohnjackson.org 784-0553 X 121

Coordinator of Youth Faith Formation: Clare Kolendra clare@stjohnjackson.org

Sunday Morning Sessions: 10:00-11:30 am in the St. John School
Class ends at 11:30, pick up in time for the Noon Mass at St. John

K-6 begin each week in the "Gathering Room" 103 of the South Hall (old JCMS)
Pre-School, 7th & 8th meet in their rooms Adults meet in the School Teacher Lounge

2016-17 Schedule

2016

9/25/2016	Start-Registration-Kick off!
10/2/2016	
10/9/2016	Final Confirmation Meeting 2pm
10/16/2016	Confirmation 2pm OLF
10/23/2016	
10/30/2016	All Saints / Halloween
11/6/2016	
11/13/2016	1st Confirmation Meeting (2017)
11/20/2016	Thanksgiving and Advent coming
11/27/2016	NO SESSION-THANKSGIVING
12/4/2016	Advent-2nd week
12/11/2016	Advent-3rd
12/18/2016	Advent-4th
12/25/2016	NO SESSION-CHRISTMAS

2017

1/1/2017	NO SESSION-NEW YEAR DAY
1/8/2017	Epiphany
1/15/2017	NO SESSION MLK Jr. Weekend
1/22/2017	1st Reconciliation Retreat 3-5pm
1/29/2017	
2/5/2017	
2/9 & 2/11	1st Rec. 2/9 6:30pm & 2/11 10am
2/12/2017	St Valentine Day
2/19/2017	NO SESSION--PRES. DAY Weekend
2/26/2017	
3/5/2017	Lent-1st week
3/12/2017	Lent-2nd
3/19/2017	Lent-3rd
3/26/2017	Lent-4th 1st Eucharist Retreat 3-5pm
4/2/2017	NO SESSION-Spr Brk
4/9/2017	NO SESSION-Spr Brk & Palm Sunday
4/16/2017	NO SESSION-Easter
4/23/2017	
4/30/2017	
5/4	1st Euch. Practice 5:30 & 6:30
5/6	1st Euch. 5/6 4:00pm St Joe
5/7/2017	NO SESSION 1st Euch. 5/7 2:00pm St John
5/14/2017	Mother's Day
5/21/2017	Final Class!

Tuition

St. John & St. Joseph Parishioners:
1 student = \$50,
2 students = \$75,
3 or more students = \$100
Parishioners of other Parishes: \$60 per student

Scholarships ARE available, just ask. We do not want anyone to miss religious formation because of money issues! Adults who join us on Sunday morning do not have to pay tuition fees, however a \$10 hospitality donation would be GREATLY appreciated!

You may follow a payment plan as follows:

Registration / First Sessions . . . 1/3 of total due
January 2016 1/2 of remaining balance due
April 2016 remaining balance due
 (The parish office will send a reminder INVOICE in January and April)

Snacks

We will have a snack schedule rotation, with the Parish, staff and catechists helping! *If in any way this is a financial hardship, please don't feel obligated to participate!* No family is on the list more than three times a year. The schedule will be printed each week on our weekly newsletter. When you are scheduled, please bring enough for approximately 12-18 people to the gathering space. Remember, this is a light SNACK not a MEAL! The teachers and most of the other parents would appreciate LESS SUGAR if at all possible.

NEW THIS YEAR: Please NO PEANUTS or PEANUT BUTTER snacks. We have students and catechists with extreme peanut allergies. Snack ideas: breakfast bars, cheese crackers, animal crackers, fruit snacks, pretzels, grapes, raisins, cereals, apple sauce, string cheese, popcorn...

2016-17 Faith Formation Catechists (& Room Aids)

Pre-School (Room 104 & 105—School Child Care Rooms)

Lara Dupuis (Jessica Covill, Kristin and B.J. Walraven, Judy Christian)

Kindergarten Room 111

Stacey Phelps (Charlene Miller, Chris Olds)

1st Grade Room 107 (school Spanish Room)

Kathy Jones (Justin Jarosz)

2nd Grade Room 103 (the Gathering Room!)

Kathy Tarnowski, Shawn VanHeyningen, Nancy Tylutki

3rd Grade Room 108 (School Library)

Terry Whitesall

4th Grade Room 115 (School Art Room)

Amy Brafford, (Nga Cook)

5th Grade & 6th Grade Room 102

Cyndi & David Dupuis

7th Grade Room 113 (School Latchkey)

Jared Bulson, (Kayla Mantey, Tisha Wowianko)

8th Grade Room 114 (School Science)

Jeromy Alexander

Adult Study Room 123 (School Teacher Lounge)

Lucas Sponsler, (Candy Copeland)

ALL CLASSES

Will meet in the South Hall (old JCMS)! Pre-School and 7th & 8th Grade will go straight to their rooms, K-6 begin in the Gathering Room (103). Adult class meets in the school Teacher Lounge.

Safety Guidelines

DROPPING OFF CHILDREN

Parents and Students may enter the St. John School through the back parking lot entrance where the two wings of the school meet. There will be signs and cars near the entrance. Our parking lot is very busy; for safety, please accompany your younger children into the building.

Kindergarten through 6th Grade will begin in the Gathering Room 103 for snacks, prayer and opening session before going to their age appropriate classrooms. **Pre-School will gather in Room 105. 7th & 8th Grade will gather in rooms 113 & 114. Adults meet in the Teacher Lounge, the north wing of the school.**

PICKING UP CHILDREN

*Parents must come to pick up Pre-School through 4th grade students from their classrooms; PLEASE INITIAL the pick-up form each teacher will have with them. Older students can find their way to their parents. **If there are custody issues and someone is prohibited from taking your child WE MUST KNOW!***

VISITING FRIENDS

Frequently our regular attendees have sleep-overs with friends or cousins. Guests and visiting friends are welcomed, provided there is MINIMAL disruption! Please try to keep students in age-appropriate classes. Visitors must be signed in with parent's name and an emergency contact number!

SEVERE WEATHER CONDITIONS / SNOW DAYS

We will make every attempt to NEVER cancel for a "snow day" unless roads are completely impassible! If the National Weather Service announces a **SEVERE WEATHER WARNING** during class time, (where they advise to stay off the roads!) we will cancel class. *We will not cancel for a weather advisory.* We will make every attempt to put an announcement on the St. John FaceBook page and website. Use your judgment! Do NOT risk family safety to attend! Students will not be penalized if they cannot make it in due to weather.

Curriculum

Our Sunday Visitor

WE WILL WORK ALL YEAR
on memorizing *prayers* and
Catholic Basics! Students will be
TESTED and **EXPECTED** to
LEARN as well as **ENGAGE!**
(See last pages of this handbook!)

Pre-School (3-5 year olds) and KINDERGARTEN

ALLELU is a fun-filled, faith-filled Pre-School program. It explores God's gifts of self, creation, family and church. Activities focus on developing faith through language, visual, motor and listening skills. Joyful songs, poetry, prayers, and special celebrations are used to meet the little ones' needs.

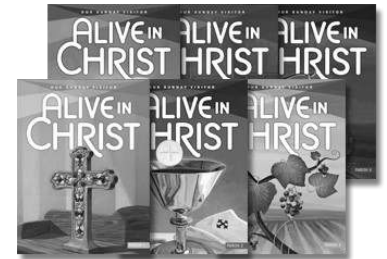
<http://www.allelu.com/>



Grades K-6th Grade

ALIVE IN CHRIST from *Our Sunday Visitor*

Publishing is rooted in the 4 pillars of the Catechism of the Catholic Church: Creed, Sacraments, Morality, and Prayer. Each session is interactive, deeply Scriptural and focused on being disciples of Jesus!
<http://aliveinchrist.osv.com/>

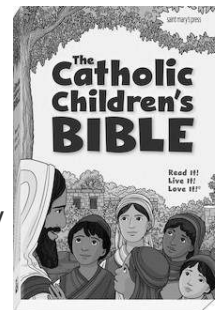


2nd Grade **GO, SEEK, FIND**

We are so excited to introduce new material for our second graders as they get ready for First Reconciliation and First Holy Eucharist: *St. Mary's Press Go, Seek, Find* curriculum based around a treasure hunt for the Sacraments, rooted in *the Catholic Children's Bible*.

Grades 7 & 8

This is the second year using the *Ascension Press* DVD curriculum, **CHOSEN**. It tackles deep Catholicism, yet doesn't speak down to the teens. It's engaging—with catchy graphics, stunning photography, weighty questions and confident answers to the questions teens ask.
<http://ascensionpress.com/t/category/study-programs/chosen>



ADULT CLASS for any High Schooler or Adult! We will explore the Catholic Faith at an adult level, open for all adults in the parish. We will use a variety of materials: the Catechism, Scripture, teacher manuals, RCIA material, DVDs, and other resources in a GREAT conversational format! The first topic will be **A Biblical Walk Through the Mass**.

Home Study Option

For various reasons our Sunday morning sessions may not work for your family. As the primary educator of your children, you do have the option of Home Study. You have the resources of our Faith Formation Office at your disposal if you so choose, including textbooks. Please feel free to contact Todd Gale for details.

SPECIAL NEEDS

Every effort is made to meet the needs of all children. Please let us know how we can best assist your child in having a positive learning experience. It is very important that we are notified of any handicaps, allergies, learning disabilities, sight or hearing problems, family changes, etc. Depending on the type of special needs your child has, you may wish to enroll your child in our **Jackson Regional Special Religious Education Program**, which meets on Monday evenings. Call the office for schedules and details!





It is our philosophy that NOTHING in life is more important than your Faith relationship with God. We are here to help you form your families into true disciples of Jesus. We promise to make the preparation of the Sacraments a meaningful priority... we ask for families to make an equal promise of priority.



1st Reconciliation

2nd Grade students who have been baptized

Preparation

- Students must be enrolled in **St. John school** or **Religious Education Program**
- Students *and parents* must attend the moving and meaningful **1st Reconciliation Retreat** which will be held **Sunday, January 22 from 3:00-5:00** in the St. John Community Room. **(Just in time to attend 5:00 Mass together!)**

Reception of the Sacrament

- There are two options for the celebration of 1st Reconciliation: **Thursday evening, February 9, 6:30pm** or **Saturday Morning, February 11, 10:00am**, in the Church. Details will be announced!



1st Eucharist

2nd Grade students who have been baptized and celebrated their 1st Reconciliation.

Preparation

- Students must be enrolled in **St. John school** or **Religious Education Program**
- Students *and parents* must attend the moving and meaningful **1st Eucharist Retreat** which will be held **Sunday, March 26 from 3:00-5:00** in the St. John Community Room. **(Just in time to attend 5:00 Mass together!)**
- Students will attend **the practice session** which will be held Thursday evening, **May 4**, either **5:30 at St. Joseph**, or **6:30 at St. John in the Church**. Details will be announced!

Reception of the Sacrament

- Families may choose which of the community celebrations of 1st Eucharist: **Saturday May 6, 4:00 at St. Joseph** or **Sunday May 7 2:00 at St. John**.



Confirmation

Confirmation is celebrated with students in the 9th Grade who have been baptized, prepared for two years, received 1st Reconciliation and 1st Eucharist

Preparation

- In 7th & 8th grade, students **must be enrolled** in **Lumen Christi Catholic school** or **Religious Education Program**
- During the 8th grade year, students, *sponsors and parents* must attend a moving and meaningful mini-**retreat** which will be held **Sunday, from 3:00-5:00 on November 13. (Just in time to attend 5:00 Mass together!)**
- Also an **all day Confirmation Retreat for Candidates in the spring**. Date, times and details will be **announced soon!**
- Service, Mass attendance, interviews, 40 Questions and more will be required!

Reception of the Sacrament

- The Bishop anoints and lays hands on the students in **October of their 9th grade year (2017)**. There is a practice session to attend. Details will be announced once the Bishop sets the date!

The Ten Commandments of Religious Education

(Rules and Expectations)

I. THOU SHALL ATTEND. Students are expected to attend all **scheduled classes**. If a student is going to be absent, we ask parents to notify the office or the catechist/teacher if you know in advance. Illness, emergencies and last minute schedule conflicts are unavoidable and we truly understand! Consistent attendance is important to our program, just as it is in any subject area. If a student misses two classes and we haven't heard from a parent, we will give you a courtesy call to check in.



II. THOU SHALL BE ON TIME. Please be on time! Late arrivals and early dismissals disrupt class for everyone so we appreciate parent efforts to avoid this whenever possible.

III. THOU SHALL ATTEND WEEKLY MASS! We are Catholic, we attend weekly Eucharist! It is expected, it is a PRECEPT of the Church, "You shall attend Mass on Sundays and on Holy Days of Obligation and remain free from work or activity that would impede the sanctification of such days." It is a COMMANDMENT. It is a great OPPORTUNITY and HONOR! Also we'd love to see you at special events and parish functions, especially those which target your child's age level.

IV. THOU SHALL PARTICIPATE. We expect students who take the time to show up will invest their energy and participate!

V. THOU SHALL RESPECT PROPERTY. Students are expected to treat school and church property with respect. Any student who intentionally or carelessly causes damage to property will be expected to compensate for the damage and may be removed from the class.

VI. THOU SHALL RESPECT EACH OTHER. Students are expected to exhibit behavior appropriate to a Christian learning environment. Parents will be notified if their student is disrespectful to other students or catechists/aides, unduly rowdy, refuses to participate in an appropriate manner, or otherwise disrupts class. Parents may be asked to be present at the next class if student behavior is consistently inappropriate. Expulsion is a possibility but not preferred!

VII. THOU SHALL NOT HAVE ELECTRONIC DEVICES UNLESS INSTRUCTED! Students are expected to keep cell phones off and in their pocket during class time, unless they are used at the guidance of the teacher/catechist.

VIII. THOU SHALL NOT HAVE WEAPONS, DRUGS, ALCOHOL, PORNOGRAPHY OR OTHER DANGERS WITH THOU, IN THOU OR NEAR THOU. Enough said?

IX. THOU SHALL SHARE IN SNACKS AND CLEAN UP. We will ask for a rotation of people to bring snacks (if you are able) and to help clean up each week. It is expected that you will do all that you can when it is your turn! We DON'T expect you to purchase snacks if it's a financial burden—do what you can!

X. THOU SHALL SINCERELY ATTEMPT TO BE DISCIPLES OF JESUS. A disciple is a student who follows the Master... we invite you to follow the Master Jesus sincerely and enthusiastically.

Prayers and Mass Responses to Memorize

Sign of the Cross

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Our Father

Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

Hail Mary

Hail Mary,
Full of grace, the Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou among women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Glory Be (Doxology)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning, is now
and ever shall be. World without end. Amen.

Prayer to the Holy Spirit,

Come Holy Spirit,
fill the hearts of your faithful,
and kindle in them the fire of your love.
Send forth Your Spirit and they shall be created,
And you shall renew the face of the earth.
O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit
instructed the hearts of the faithful,
Grant, that by that same Spirit
we may be truly wise
and ever rejoice in His consolation.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

Prayer Before Meals

Bless us, O Lord,
and these Thy gifts,
which we are about to receive
from Thy bounty.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Act of Contrition

My God
I am sorry for my sins with all my heart.
In choosing to do wrong
and failing to do good,
I have sinned against you
whom I should love above all things.
I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance,
to sin no more,
and to avoid whatever leads me to sin.
Our Savior Jesus Christ
suffered and died for us.
In his name, my God, have mercy. Amen.

Angel of God

Angel of God,
my guardian dear,
to whom God's love commits me here,
ever this day,
be at my side
to light and guard,
to rule and guide. Amen.

Prayer to Saint Michael the Archangel

St. Michael the Archangel,
defend us in battle.
Be our defense against the wickedness
and snares of the devil.
May God rebuke him,
we humbly pray,
and do thou,
O Prince of the heavenly host,
by the power of God,
cast into hell Satan,
and all the evil spirits,
who wander about the world
seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

MASS RESPONSES:

ALL:

Introductory Rite:

Priest: *The Lord be with you.*

People: *And with your spirit.*

Penitential Rite

Confetior: *I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.*

Priest: *Lord, have mercy.*

People: *Lord, have mercy.*

Priest: *Christ, have mercy.*

People: *Christ, have mercy.*

Priest: *Lord, have mercy.*

People: *Lord, have mercy.*

Or:

Priest: *Kyrie, eleison..*

People: *Kyrie, eleison.*

Priest: *Christe, eleison.*

People: *Christe, eleison.*

Priest: *Kyrie, eleison..*

People: *Kyrie, eleison.*

After First and Second Readings:

Proclaimer: *The Word of the Lord.*

All: *Thanks be to God.*

Before the Gospel:

Priest/Deacon: *The Lord be with you.*

People: *And with your spirit.*

Deacon/Priest: *A reading from the holy Gospel according to...*

+++

People: *Glory to you, O Lord.*

After the Gospel:

Priest/Deacon: *The Gospel of the Lord.*

All: *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

After the Priest washes his hands, the people stand:

Priest: *Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.*

People: *May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.*

Priest prays over the Offerings

People: *Amen.*

Priest: *The Lord be with you.*

People: *And with your spirit.*

Priest: *Lift up your hearts.*

People : *We lift them up to the Lord.*

Priest: *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

People: *It is right and just.*

After the Sign of Peace:

All: *Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.*

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

Priest: *Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away*

the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

People: *Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.*

CONCLUDING RITE Greeting and blessing

Priest: *The Lord be with you.*

People: *And with your spirit.*

Priest: *May almighty God bless you: the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.*

People: *Amen.*

Priest or Deacon: *Go forth, the Mass is ended. (or another version...)*

People: *Thanks be to God.*