

## Religious Education/ Faith Formation Policies

### Policy #1

#### Expectations and Behavior Code:

- All Children and youth will be expected to behave in a Christian manner at all times showing respect and being cooperative with adults and other students.
- Children and youth will be expected to actively and respectfully participate in classroom activities and discussions.

#### Disciplinary Process:

- A warning will be given to the student with possible dismissal from the classroom and a telephone call to his/her parents/guardians.
- If misconduct persists, the parents/guardians will be requested to come and get their child and a meeting will be scheduled with the child's catechist and the Director of Faith Formation.
- All Serious misbehavior will be dealt with immediately. Parents/Guardians will be contacted to come to discuss the matter with all persons involved. Serious misbehavior could lead to suspension and/or expulsion from class for the year.
- While on church property, the use of tobacco, alcohol or any controlled substance by students or adults, before, during or after Faith Formation Sessions, will not be tolerated.
- Parents/Guardians of children/youth found to possess weapons, dangerous objects and/or look-a-likes on parish property or at parish-related activities, shall be notified immediately. Possession or confiscation of weapons or dangerous objects will be reported to law enforcement officials. Children/youth will be subject to disciplinary action which may include expulsion, a period of suspension or a recommendation to counseling services.

### Policy #2

Children must attend Religious Education Classes the year before the Sacramental Preparation year. Attendance must be at least 50% during years other than the Sacramental Preparation Year. During a Sacramental Preparation Year, attendance at Sessions needs to be 100% if possible.

#### Safety Procedures

- Your child's safety is our concern. Students are asked to use the front doors of the church only for Grades 2-8th, and the Rectory door for Grades 1 & High School. Please do not use the south doors of the church hall to come to class. Please instruct your child to use only these doors and to watch as they enter from the parking lot and return to their cars after classes are over. Parents are encouraged to monitor the outside grounds before and after leaving classes.
- We will also have a fire drill during the month of October on a Wednesday evening. Instructions for leaving and returning to the building safely during a fire will be discussed in all the sessions in September and October.

# St. Mary's Faith Formation



2015-2016

## Parent Handbook

St. Mary's Church  
1510 Highland Ave  
Red Oak, IA 51566  
712-623-2744

stmarysredoak@msn.com

### St. Mary's Religious Faith Formation Mission Statement:

As a parish, we are committed to foster growth in faith at all age levels, adults as well as youth. The catechetical program at St. Mary's seeks to provide children and adults with the knowledge, experiences and skills to help parishioners to be faithful and fruitful disciples of Jesus.

2015-2016  
**ST. MARY'S CHURCH, RED OAK**

**SESSION TIMES:**

**PreKindergarten/Kindergarten:**  
(meets twice a month)

**Sunday Mornings 10:30-11:30a.m.**  
**Rectory (House) Basement**

**1 - 8th Grades:**

**Wednesday Evenings 7:00-8:00p.m.**  
**Rectory (House) Basement Grades 1 & High School**  
**Church Hall Grades 2-8**

**9th - 12th Grades:**

**Wednesday Evenings: 7:00-8:00p.m.**  
**Meeting Area—Rectory Basement Main Room**  
**Please see the schedule for all of the activities.**

**Cindee Hays**

**Director of Faith Formation (Religious Education)**  
**Parish Office 623-2744**

**Parish New Website: [www.stmarysredoak.com](http://www.stmarysredoak.com)**

Email: [stmarysredoak@msn.com](mailto:stmarysredoak@msn.com)

Like Us on Facebook for more information and pictures!  
[www.facebook.com/stmarysredoak](http://www.facebook.com/stmarysredoak)

**St. Mary's Parish Community asks you to:**

- Make attendance at Weekend Mass a priority for you and your family. "The Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life."  
*(Lumen Gentium)*
- Make attendance at religious faith formation sessions a priority for you and your child. Religious Faith Formation is a life-long process for everyone!
- Pray regularly with your family; discuss the Sunday Lectionary Readings Handouts for family discussions for the Lectionary Readings are sent home with the students each week!
- Participate in the life of our Parish Community. Students learn from example also. You are the primary religious educators of your children. Your example of participating with the life of the church community is essential in your own faith formation as well as the example you give to your children.
- Discuss with your child what they are doing at the religious faith formations sessions. Worksheets for the family are sent home regularly as well as announcements. Please ask your child for these informational sheets. Parents and Grandparents are invited to join their child in the classroom anytime!

**As catechists we will:**

- Provide support and encouragement to parents and families;
- Provide a safe and learning environment where the message of Jesus Christ and the truths and traditions of our Catholic faith can be explored openly.
- Provide a caring and nurturing environment for our Parish Community.
- Provide opportunities for participation in liturgy, sacraments, and prayer.
- Provide opportunities to reach out to members of our parish family, and also opportunities for service to the larger community

**Procedures for Religious Education/ Faith Formation**

**Session Cancellations:**

For cancellations due to inclement weather, please listen to KCSI 95.3FM or 1080AM radio station for any announcements regarding Religious Education classes. If school in Red Oak is cancelled due to bad weather, our Faith Formation Sessions will also be cancelled. Please listen to KCSI for more information.