



Three Parishes One Family in Christ

15 August 2025

Dear 6th, 7th and 8th Grade Parents,

Each year, on the Solemnity of the Assumption, it is our custom to distribute our welcome letter and information for the upcoming Middle School Youth Group and Confirmation Preparation year. Registration is open on Monday, August 18.

We entrust all our youth educational and formation program to our Blessed Mother. She is the model of how parents should be prayerful and discerning of leading their children to Jesus. This year, the Pastoral Leadership Team of myself, Fr. Augustus, Brian Meeuwsen (Pastoral Associate), Tammy Scheenstra (Pastoral Ministry Assistant) and the addition of Karl Kemper (vice principal at Visitation Catholic School) are excited to assist all parents as primary educators in their child(ren) faith formation and development.

This year, the theme will focus on Saints. The Kick Off event is scheduled for Sunday, September 7, 2025 where we will gather for Mass at 6:00pm Visitation Catholic Church. All families are invited to attend. After the Mass, there will be a Parent Information Meeting in the Visitation Parish Center from 6:45-7:15pm to fill out the Middle School Registration Form and go over the 2025-26 Schedule (see attached).

As part of the faith formation which focuses on the 4 pillars of Catechesis, Fellowship, Prayer and Service, this includes for 7th and 8th grade aged youth the opportunity for the Sacrament of Confirmation preparation.

Interested 7th-8th Grade youth and at least one parent must attend the Informational Meeting on Wednesday, September 10, 2025 at 6:00pm Visitation Parish Center, Verboort. Attached are the Confirmation Registration Form, 2025-26 Confirmation Schedule, and Candidate Expectation. Please fill out and have it ready at the Confirmation Parent Information meeting on September 10. The first lesson for Confirmation preparation will be held during the Saturday 5:00pm Vigil Mass at Visitation church, Verboort on September 20.

Finally, this year, the **overnight retreat is ONLY for 7/8th graders** as they are preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation as the focus is for that purpose. We hope that the 6th graders will look forward to this experience as they get closer to participate in Confirmation preparation.

If there are any questions, please contact Tammy Scheenstra 971-245-9913 or tammy.scheenstra@hotmail.com.

In Christ,

Fr. Michael, Pastor