



2023-2024 LNMV Religious Education Parent/Student Handbook

LNMV Religious Education Center

6100 37th St W., Webster, MN 55088

952-652-6100 ext. 130

www.lnmvre.net

lnmvre@holycrossschool.net

Church of the Immaculate Conception, Lonsdale

202 Alabama Street SE, Lonsdale, MN 550466

507-744-2829

www.icchurch.cc

Father Nicholas VanDenBroeke, Pastor

Church of St. Nicholas, New Market

51 Church St, New Market, MN 55054

952-461-2403

www.stncc.net

Father Michael Rudolph, Pastor

Most Holy Trinity, Veseli

4939 Washington Street N., Veseli, MN 55046

507-744-2823

www.mhtveseli.com

Father John Lapensky, Pastor

Director of LNMV Religious Education

Mary Rose Rynda

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“The aim of catechesis is to lead believers to a deeper knowledge and love of Christ and the Church and a firm commitment to follow him” (National Directory for Catechesis).

All religious education is formation in Christ, given to make “faith become living, conscious and active, through the light of instruction” (CD, 14)

Class Schedule 2023-2024

Wednesday Nights at 6:30pm – 7:45 pm* Classes held at LNMV Catholic Education Center, home of Holy Cross School - 6100 37th Street West, Webster, MN 55088

****Staggered release time help with congestion at pick up: Lower grades at 7:45; middle school grades 7:50; Confirmation 7:55pm**

September	6	First Communion Parent Meeting @ 6:00pm in gym at Holy Cross
	6	Confirmation Parent Student Meeting @ 7:00pm in gym at Holy Cross
	7	Catechist/aides/Volunteer Orientation Workshop (Grades 1- 10) 6:00-8:00pm
	20	Class
	27	Class
October	4	Class
	11	Class
	18	NO CLASS – MEA Break
	25	Class - Safety training for Grades 8-9-10 Confirmation 1 and 2 Testing night
November	1	NO CLASS – All Saints Day
	8	Class - Safety training for Grades 4-7
	15	Class - Safety training for Grades 1-3 Confirmation 1 and 2 retesting night
	22	NO CLASS – Thanksgiving Break
	29	Class
December	6	Class
	13	Class
	20	NO CLASS (Christmas Break)
	27	NO CLASS (Christmas Break)
January	3	Class
	10	Class - First Reconciliation Interviews
	17	Class - Confirmation 2 Folder Assignments due
	24	Class
	31	Class – (TOB talk part 1 for Confirmation 1 and 2)
February	7	Class - Prayer Knowledge Testing (TOB talk part 1 for Confirmation 1 and 2)
	14	NO CLASS – Ash Wednesday
	21	Class
	28	Class
March	6	Class - Confirmation 1 Folder Assignments due
	13	Class – All Grades Penances
	20	Class – Stations of the Cross and adoration
	27	NO CLASS – Holy Week
April	3	Class
	10	Class – First Communion Interviews
	17	Class
	24	Class – Last night

ABSENCES: The LNMV RE Web site has button to click to report absences or an email can be sent to:
Inmvre@holycrossschool.net

Additional 2023-2024 Sacramental Event Dates:

Baptismal Certificates Needed - All students preparing for receiving sacraments will need a certified baptismal certificate from the parish of baptism if not baptized at the parish of current registration. Certified copies should come directly from the parish of baptism. **We must receive these certificates by October 1st or the Sacrament could be delayed.** This applies to all our First Communion students and our Confirmation students. This does not apply if your child was baptized at one of our three parishes, the RE Administrative Assistant will work with your parish of baptism to receive the certified certificate. Please don't delay in getting certificates from the parish of your child's baptism.

Second Grade Additional Dates:

- Wednesday, Sept 6 - parent meeting @ 6 pm @ Holy Cross Gym
- Parents of the First Communion students will be required to participate in their parish small groups that will be forming in winter/spring of 2024. Dates and times TBD.
- Saturday, Jan. 13 @ 10 am, at your parish, Parent/Student Reconciliation Workshop tour/talk
- First Reconciliation at your parish:
 - Saturday, January 20
 - MHT @ 9:30 am
 - IC @ 11:00 am
 - Saturday, January 27
 - SN @ 11:00 am
- Saturday, April 13 (Sn and MHT), Saturday, April 20 (IC) - 1st Communion parent/student workshop 9:30- 11:00 at your parish
- First Communion Rehearsal – at your parish:
 - MHT – Saturday, April 27 @ 10 am
 - IC and SN – Saturday, May 4 @ 10 am
- First Communion Mass – at your parish:
 - MHT – Sunday April 28 @ 9:00 am
 - IC and SN – Sunday, May 5 @ 2:00 pm

Confirmation II (10th grade class) Additional Dates:

- Wednesday, Sept 6 - Confirmation student-parent meeting @ 7:00pm @ Holy Cross Gym
- Sunday, Oct. 1 - Sponsor/Confirmation Student Meeting, @ 2pm @ St Nicholas with IC and MHT
- Friday and Saturday, Nov. 24 and 25 – Mandatory Confirmation Retreat for yr. II Confirmation, NEW this year it is also open to Confirmation 1 Students, hosted @IC, times TBA
- Sunday, May 5, 2024 - May Rite of Sending for Confirmation yr. II students
 - 9am Mass MHT
 - 10am Mass IC and SN
- Confirmation – Thursday, May 9, 2024, at the Cathedral of St Paul in St Paul, MN, at 7:00 pm.

Formed.org

FORMED is a website that is a gateway to awesome Catholic content for both children and adults and is FREE to all our families. The children programming is great and kids love the animated programs, movies, bible stories, and there are e-books to download and they become yours!

Through FORMED you have access to over \$800,000 of programming, this is a wonderful tool. To help you get started they provide a “pick of the week” or simply pick topics you are interested in.

If you have not registered yet, it is easy to do so by:

- Going to www.formed.org/signup
- Type in: “St. Nicolas New Market MN (we all share an account through them)”
- Click on St Nicholas when it appears in the drop down list
- Click “Next”
- Enter your Name and Email
- Click “Signup”



FORMED APP: Download the formed app on tablets and other mobile devices. Great content for your children to have access to.

Family Learning Goals

1. Parents are the first and most influential educators of their children. You are encouraged as parents to discuss the material learned in class with your child. Discussing the material, praying as a family and frequently attending Mass will help your child to grow in his or her faith.
2. Mass attendance on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation is a serious obligation. Religious Education assists the student in growing in his\her faith; it does not take the place of Mass attendance. Mass attendance every Sunday and Holy Day of Obligation is expected of every student.
3. Parents are asked to assist their children in learning the formal prayers of the church. The expectations of each grade level are outlined in this book along with a copy of the prayers. Parents, Godparents and Grandparents can help students prepare for their prayer testing. By helping them memorize their prayers, you can also help build a habit of prayer and strengthen your child’s relationship with God.
4. Homework is sometimes assigned by the catechists. The goal in assigning homework is to reinforce lessons learned in class. Please discuss your child’s homework with them and assist him or her to ensure that he\she is learning the material as well as possible.

General Policy and Guidelines

1. **Drop-off time for all students is between 6:20pm – 6:30pm.** Students **may not** enter the classroom unless their Catechist/teacher is in the room. Catechists are not responsible for students dropped off earlier than 6:20pm. Doors are locked for security at 6:35 after opening prayer.
2. **Class release times are staggered to help relieve congestion upon pickup. Lower grades release time is at 7:45pm, middle school at 7:50pm and Confirmation at 7:55pm. Please be prompt for pickup.** If you have a child in **grades 1-4** you must come into the school to pick up your child or an older sibling must come to the classroom to pick them up, if arranged with teacher. If you are part of a carpool, please make arrangements with the teacher ahead of time so they know who to release your child to. This is for your child’s safety!

3. **ATTENDANCE POLICY:** Children should make every effort to attend every class. This helps all students and catechists when they do not have to repeat or re-teach for those missing. **REPORT Absences through link on RE website or send an email to lnmvre@holycrossschool.net** as soon as you are aware that your child will be absent. If there is no advance notice your child's absence will be **considered an unexcused absence.**
4. Students are not to bring I-pods, cell phones, headphones, food, drink, gum, weapons, toys, or anything else to class that will cause distractions. **Any items brought to class that does NOT have to do with Religion may be confiscated and returned at the end of class. (No Exceptions).**
5. **Appropriate dress:** Students should dress respectfully for class; **NO** hats, caps, tank tops, t-shirts with inappropriate sayings. **All YOGA OR LEGGING PANTS should have long sweater/shirt for coverage; short shorts are NOT allowed. **** Parents may be contacted to bring appropriate clothing.
6. Students that make a threat of any kind to their teacher, peers, helpers, or parents, will immediately result with dismissal from the program.
7. If your child loses or damages a textbook, you will be charged a replacement fee.
8. **CHANGES to the Wednesday evening religion classes** as well as announcements of upcoming events will be published in your parish church bulletin and the RE website: www.lnmvre.net Email notices will be sent if appropriate.
9. You must be a registered parishioner of the parish in order to participate in Religious Education, if you need to register, please call your parish office first
10. Parking lot at Holy Cross: Please be courteous in picking up and dropping off children. Please Park your car in the lot if your child is not waiting at the curb. Drive slow and careful as many students are crossing the parking lot to get to a waiting car. Handicap parking is **ONLY** for those with Handicap stickers per the law!

Student Behavior Expectations

1. **Respect school and student property.** Wipe muddy feet before entering the building, use garbage cans for garbage, do not sit or stand on desks or tables. Keep hands out of day-students' desks and off of day-class items, if this is not observed it could lead to disciplinary action.
2. **Respect yourself, your peers and all the teachers.**
3. **Listen** quietly when someone is talking and speak with good manners. Keep hands and feet to yourself. Do not run in the hallways. The Gym is only used with permission.
4. **Arrive prepared to learn and to contribute positively to the class.** (Read chapters, complete assignments, and practice prayers regularly.)

Discipline Policy

Disorderly and disrespectful conduct to catechists\teachers or peers is not acceptable. Resolution will depend upon the severity of the problem and frequency. General guidelines are listed below.

1. The catechist will verbally correct the erring student by directing the student to stop the unacceptable behavior and conform to the expected behavior. A verbal correction may be followed up with an Incident Report Form letting the parent know there was an issue. The form needs to be signed and returned the next week. If the behavior continues, we move to step 2.

2. Student will be sent to the DRE to discuss the behavior and come up with a plan for the rest of evening. Student may return to classroom upon Catechist and DRE approval. There will be follow up with a notification of parents. If behavior problems continue, we move to step 3.
3. Student will be doing seat work in the office the remainder of class time. The DRE will contact the parents about the issue and together determine the proper resolution of the problem which could result in the dismissal of the student from the program. A plan for continued education of the student will be completed with the help of the parents. Parents will be requested to sit with child in classroom if child is sent to the office more than 3 times.

Human Sexuality and Identity

(From guidance by the Catholic Bishops of Minnesota, 2019)

The LNMV Religious Education program is committed to providing a safe environment that allows students to flourish academically, physically, and spiritually. Catholic religious education programs are obliged to provide an education and resources consistent with Catholic teaching. The starting point for Catholic education is a deeply held understanding that affirms the God-given irrevocable dignity of every human person.

Catholic teaching permeates and shapes the ethos of LNMV Religious Education. Therefore, we are guided by the following principles to ensure that the immeasurable dignity of every child is protected and respected, particularly as it relates to foundational beliefs of the Catholic Church:

- God created each person body and soul “in His own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them” (Gen. 1:27). The dignity of each person and the source of his or her most important identity is found in this creation in the image and likeness of God (CCC §364).
- God uses the body to reveal to each person his or her sexual identity as male or female (Compendium §224). A person’s embrace of his or her God-given sexual identity is an essential part of living a fulfilled relationship with God, with oneself, and with each other (Laudato Si §155).
- The harmonious integration of a person’s sexual identity with his or her sex is an expression of the inner unity and reality of the human person made body and soul in the image and likeness of God (CCC §364-65).
- The physical, moral, and spiritual differences between men and women are equal and complementary. The flourishing of family life and society depend in part on how this complementarity and equality are lived out (CCC §2333-4).
- All students and families deserve interactions with Catholic school communities that are marked by respect, charity, and the truth about human dignity and God’s love (Deus Caritas Est §20).

Application of Principles

1. All religious education policies, procedures, resources, employee training, and assistance given to families are consistent with the Church’s teaching on the dignity of the human person, including human sexuality.
2. Student’s name and pronouns usage will correspond to his/her sex (see definitions).
3. Student access to facilities will align with his/her sex.
4. Participation in single-sex curricular and extracurricular activities is based on the sex of the child.
5. Expressions of a student’s sexual identity are prohibited when they cause disruption or confusion regarding the Church’s teaching on human sexuality. Our dress codes are intended to underscore the Church’s teaching on the difference and complementarity of the two sexes.

6. Students and families in the LNMV Religious Education program can expect that we acknowledge that God has created each person as a unity of body and soul, as male or female, and that God-designed sexual expression and behavior must be exclusively oriented to love and life in marriage between one man and one woman.
7. We will communicate with parents or guardians about their child's behavior and inform them of any concerns relating to the physical, emotional, social, and spiritual health, safety, or welfare of their child, except when advised otherwise by law enforcement or a social service agency.

Definitions

1. Sex refers to a person's biological identification as male or female based upon physical characteristics present at birth.
2. Sexual identity refers to a person's identity as male or female that is congruent with one's sex.
3. Sexual binary refers to the God-given gift of the human family created male or female in the image and likeness of God.
4. Transgender or gender non-conforming is an adjective describing a person who perceives his or her sexual identity to be different from his or her sex and publicly presents himself or herself as the opposite sex or outside the sexual binary. Such public expressions that are intended to communicate a sexual identity different from one's sex include, but are not limited to, utilizing pronouns of the opposite sex, changing one's name to reflect the cultural norms of the opposite sex, wearing a uniform designated for the opposite sex, and undergoing surgery to change the appearance of one's reproductive or sexual anatomy.

Weather Updates

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: Because of the multiple school districts and the fact that severe weather changes during the day and can develop late in the day which may cause the cancellation of evening classes. It also happens that some school districts cancel while others do not and weather can improve during the day, so classes can and **will be** held in the evening regardless of school day cancellations. Please check the LNMV RE web site at: www.lnmvre.net under the weather tab for updates.

Please verify if classes have been cancelled. If weather develops late in the day we will post the cancellation by 4:30pm. Late afternoon Weather announcements are difficult, but we do use our email system to give notification to all parents. Please check your listed email account.

School Security

The doors of the school will be locked at 6:35pm and re-open at 7:35pm. All parents coming to pick up their children are asked to **remain in the hallway in front of the office until 7:40 pm.** Voices do carry so we ask for quiet conversations, so we do not disturb classrooms. If you or your children arrive after 6:35pm there will either, be someone at the door to check you in or you may ring the bell at the door and wait for someone to ask to identify yourself and let you in. All parents who wish to visit a classroom with their child or be in the hallways after 6:35 must sign in at the office and have a prior to going to the classroom.

Basic Catholic Prayers for Memorization

NOTE: Each student is expected to know the prayers/lists introduced at their grade level in addition to knowing the prayers learned in previous years. Each year builds on the previous year.

Information on the Treasury of Traditional Prayer and Devotions

These prayers and lists are a small part of the beautiful treasury of traditional prayers and devotions of our Catholic Faith. They help provide us with a glimpse into the foundations of our Faith and a base from which our children can learn how to live their Faith; hopefully, they'll be well prepared and will want to share their love for Jesus and the Church He established!

In our religious education classes, we will begin with an all-school prayer and each class will end with a prayer. The chart has a breakdown of information by grade level. Parents are asked to teach these prayers and lists to their children at the indicated grade level. Praying regularly at home will help them to master the required prayers. Students will be asked to show mastery of the prayers designated for their grade level (including all previous grade levels) each year, either orally or through a written assessment (for older children).

The memorization of prayers teaches how to pray and offers the essential support to the life of prayer. They help us connect in prayer together as a family and especially in common with each other at public liturgies. Without these common prayers we would not be able to stand with one voice. The memorization of prayers also supports us when we are in the desert; in times of heartache, trial and pain, these prayers offer the words our minds are too cluttered to utter on its own.

<i>First Grade</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Sign of the Cross</i> • <i>Holy Water Etiquette</i> • <i>Proper Genuflection</i> • <i>Grace before Meals</i> • <i>Our Father</i> • <i>Hail Mary</i> • <i>Glory Be</i> • <i>Guardian Angel Prayer</i> 	<i>Sixth Grade</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Memorare</i> • <i>Morning Offering</i> • <i>The Angelus</i>
<i>Second Grade</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Act of Contrition</i> 	<i>Seventh Grade</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Act of Faith*</i> • <i>Act of Hope*</i> • <i>Act of Love*</i> • <i>The Theological and Cardinal virtues</i> • <i>Seven Capital Sins</i> <p><small>*Students need a familiarity of what is contained in The Acts of Faith, Hope and Love but do not need to memorize.</small></p>
<i>Third Grade</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>10 Commandments</i> • <i>Mysteries of the Rosary</i> • <i>Fatima Prayer</i> 	<i>Eighth Grade</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Works of Mercy</i> • <i>Beatitudes</i>
<i>Fourth Grade</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Hail Holy Queen</i> • <i>Prayer for the Dead</i> 	<i>Confirmation 1</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Holy Days of Obligation</i> • <i>Seven Sacraments</i>
<i>Fifth Grade</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>St Michael the Archangel</i> • <i>Apostles Creed</i> 	<i>Confirmation 2</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit</i> • <i>The Precepts of The Church</i>