

# SAINTS ANNE & JOACHIM CATHOLIC CHURCH RE GUIDE FOR 2025-2026

**PHILOSOPHY:** *We are called to educate our children in the faith, guided by the Holy Spirit. Following in the footsteps of Saint Anne and Saint Joachim, the first educators of Mary, we join efforts with parents to help your children develop a faith-filled life. Together we experience Jesus through prayer, study, teaching, and love for one another.*

**PRINCIPLES:** Together we are involved in a process of educating our children in the Catholic faith. **Parents are the first educators of their children.** The parish community provides support and modeling through their living and experiencing the faith. Our Religious Education program seeks to encourage parents to teach their children the faith and develop the Christian characteristics of spirituality, respect, and responsibility.

1. A *SPIRITUAL* person is one who actively lives his or her faith
2. A *RESPECTFUL* person is one who believes in the dignity and worth of all individuals and acts accordingly
3. A *RESPONSIBLE* person is one who responds to meeting personal and community obligations

## SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS

**First Reconciliation:** Children in second grade prepare for First Reconciliation. Parents attend two informational meetings that explain their role. Lessons on the sacrament are taught as part of Wednesday evening classes, children take a church tour and attend an interview with the priest prior to making their First Reconciliation.

**Confirmation:** Children in third grade prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Parents attend one informational meeting that explain their role in this preparation. Lessons on the sacrament are taught as part of Wednesday evening classes and children attend a day-long retreat prior to the Confirmation and Holy Eucharist Mass.

**Holy Eucharist:** Children in third grade also prepare for the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist. Parents attend one informational meeting that explain their role in this preparation. Lessons on the sacrament are taught as part of Wednesday evening classes and children attend a day-long retreat prior to the Confirmation and Holy Eucharist Mass.

*Parents of older children who have not received these sacraments are asked to call the Director of Sacramental Prep.*

**In the event of severe weather:** *Please check the website and your email for weather notification to be sure classes will be held. When classes are canceled the school will be locked. We don't want children dropped off and unable to get in the school.*



*As a rule, when Fargo public school classes or after-school activities are canceled, Religious Education classes will be canceled. A decision to cancel classes will be made no later than 3 p.m.*

*In all cases, cancellations will be advertised on the parish website ([www.stsaaj.org](http://www.stsaaj.org)) and an email will be sent to parents. Be sure to check the website for weather updates.*

Fr. Luke Meyer, Pastor  
Fr. Joseph Littlefield, Parochial Vicar  
Sarah Bofferding, Catechesis, [sbofferding@stsaaj.org](mailto:sbofferding@stsaaj.org)  
Susan Ripplinger, Sacramental Preparation, [sriplinger@stsaaj.org](mailto:sriplinger@stsaaj.org)

## Prayers to be learned at home with parents and in class!

### *1st Grade*

**SIGN OF THE CROSS:** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**GLORY BE:** 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.

**THE LORD'S PRAYER:** 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. Amen.

**HAIL MARY:** Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. 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.

### *2nd Grade*

**GRACE BEFORE MEALS:** Bless us, O Lord, and these thy gifts which we are about to receive from thy bounty, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**GRACE AFTER MEALS:** We give you thanks, almighty God, for all your gifts which we have received, 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.

### *3rd Grade*

**APOSTLES CREED:** I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God, the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. 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.

### **Parish Mission Statement**

We are passionate about the local church, and are on mission to see God's kingdom established across the earth. We do this by Worshipping God, Serving the Poor, and Teaching the Truth



## ***4th Grade***

**HAIL HOLY QUEEN:** Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy; hail, our life, our sweetness, and our hope. To you do we cry, poor banished children of Eve. To you do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, most gracious Advocate, your eyes of mercy toward us; and after this, our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of your womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God, that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ. Amen.

**FATIMA PRAYER:** O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of your mercy.

## ***5th Grade***

**MEMORARE:** Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help, or sought your intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly to you, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To you do I come, before you I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in your mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

**MORNING PRAYER:** God be in my head, and in my understanding; God be in my eyes, and in my looking; God be in my mouth, and in my speaking; God be in my heart, and in my thinking; God be at my end, and at my departing. Amen.

## ***6th Grade***

**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.

**EVENING PRAYER:** Lord, from the rising of the sun to its setting your name is worthy of all praise. Let our prayer come like incense before you. May the lifting up of our hands be as an evening sacrifice acceptable to you, Lord our God. Amen.

## ***7th Grade***

**ST. 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 you, O prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and the other evil spirits who prowl about the world for the ruin of souls. Amen.

## **MYSTERIES OF THE ROSARY:**

### Joyful Mysteries:

1. The Annunciation
2. The Visitation
3. The Birth of Jesus or Nativity
4. The Presentation of Jesus in the Temple
5. The Finding of Jesus in the Temple

### Luminous Mysteries:

1. The Baptism of the Lord
2. The Wedding at Cana
3. The Proclamation of the Kingdom of God
4. The Transfiguration
5. The Institution of the Eucharist

### Sorrowful Mysteries:

1. The Agony in the Garden
2. The Scourging at the Pillar
3. The Crowning with Thorns
4. The Carrying of the Cross
5. The Crucifixion

### Glorious Mysteries:

1. The Resurrection
2. The Ascension
3. The Descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles
4. The Assumption of Mary into Heaven
5. The Crowning of Mary Queen of Heaven and Earth

**PUNCTUALITY:** Class begins at 6:30 pm and ends at 7:30 pm. Children should be dropped off no earlier than 6:15 pm. Prompt arrival for class and pick up at the end of class is expected. **Parents of 1st and 2nd graders** need to pick their child up at their classroom at the end of class. This is for their safety in the parking lots.

**DISCIPLINE:** Our desire is to create a classroom environment of love and trust where all children can learn and care for one another. In the event of uncooperative behavior, the following procedure will be used:

1. The teacher will redirect the child to positive behavior
2. If the child does not change the behavior, child will be sent to the Religious Education office.
3. Parents will be notified of the problem

**RULES:** The following general rules apply to all children. A teacher may add rules to create a more comfortable environment.

- ◆ **BRING YOUR RE BOOK TO CLASS EVERY WEEK**
- ◆ Be punctual and come prepared
- ◆ Listen when someone is speaking
- ◆ Raise your hand when you wish to speak
- ◆ Cell phones, food or gum are not allowed; items will be taken away

**CALENDAR:** Put the calendar in a convenient place at home for quick reference as to where class will be held (school or church) or if there is no class on a particular week.

**HOMEWORK:** Children are expected to bring their book to every class. Memorization of prayers is to be done **with parents at home**. Prayers by grade are in this guide. A child's progress in learning assigned prayers may be checked throughout the year.

**SERVICE PROJECTS:** During Advent and Lent, children will be encouraged to make a donation to the needy. Our service project for Advent is the Giving Tree (a local community project) and our service project for Lent is Operation Rice Bowl (an international community project).

**ABSENCES:** Please call or email Sarah (701) 612-2476 by noon on Wednesday if your child is going to be absent.

**WEBSITE:** Throughout the year check our website ([www.stsaaj.org](http://www.stsaaj.org)) for current information on upcoming events.