

July - 2021

Dear Parents of students entering the 8th grade during the 2021-2022 school year,

*This is an important letter regarding your child's upcoming 8th grade religious education course: Catholic Morality and Ethics. Please read in its entirety.

The Catholic Faith education curriculum for eighth grade is Catholic Morality and Ethics. The class will cover a broad range of topics:

- | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| -Issues of war | - Abortion | - Marriage |
| -Capital Punishment | - The Beatitudes | - The Ten Commandments |
| -Sexuality | - Relationships | - Conscience |

*Please note that all of the sessions are designed and instructed by Mrs. Truan to help students understand and apply the Catholic teachings regarding the above issues. The social teachings provided are straight from the Bible and the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

In addition, students are given the chance to write down questions and submit them to Mrs. Truan via a "Question Box". The concept of the "Question Box" is to give students the benefit of anonymity, allowing them to ask particular questions they may not feel comfortable asking otherwise. These questions are then read aloud during class and answered with solid Catholic teaching, based on the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

This "Question Box" has been a valuable asset to the students and Mrs. Truan. It reveals a world our youth is constantly being exposed to by the secular culture and it allows our Catholic and Christian culture to have a place in our youth's life and shine a light on the issues of war, violence, abortion, capital punishment, contraception, marriage, and more.

Our secular culture is arguably hypersexual; studies are finding that youth are being exposed to pornography BEFORE they reach eleven years old. ****Given the ease of which children are, and can be, exposed to pornographic material some questions asked have and may include explicit wording and slang.**** Without judgment or reservation Mrs. Truan does not censor these questions. After the question is read aloud Mrs. Truan addresses and corrects any explicit and inappropriate terms and follows the question with a faith based answer and solid Catholic teaching. If in the event Mrs. Truan does not know the answer she then consults with the Pastor and/or the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

I would be more than happy to answer any questions you might have so that you can make an informed decision on whether or not you feel this class would be appropriate for your son or daughter. A signed release will be required at the time of registration for your child to participate in this course.

I highly encourage every family to enroll their child in this course as it is of great benefit to our youth. The teachings and lessons learned in this course are unlike any that your child will receive within the public sector. However, if after consideration you do decide it is in your son/daughter's best interest to not participate in this class, homeschooling would be the alternative. We respect whichever decision you make and can discuss the curriculum used for homeschooling during your son/daughter's 8th grade school year.

Over ->

July - 2021

The Diocese of Salina does require that students have ongoing catechesis during their 8th grade school year prior to their Sacramental preparation for Confirmation, in 9th and 10th grade. This catechesis may be in school or at home through homeschooling.

Mrs. Truan and Mrs. Hoffman will also have a parent meeting on September 15th, during Religious Ed classes from 6:30 – 7:30 P.M. It is advised that both parents attend along with the student. Mrs. Truan will discuss the upcoming school year and what parents and students should expect from her class.

Enrollment for religion classes is August 4 and August 5 from 12 – 7 P.M. daily. At enrollment, a parent will be asked to sign the parental release form below stating that they have received a copy of this letter, have read it and understand the material which will be provided. A copy of this letter will also be available at the time of enrollment.

In Christ,

Amanda Truan & Andrea Hoffman
8th grade catechist and para

Jeanette Brungardt
Coordinator of Religious Education and Youth Ministry

PLEASE INITIAL BELOW TO ALL THAT APPLIES:

_____ I have received and read the parent letter regarding my child's 8th grade class: Catholic Morality and Ethics.

_____ I grant permission for my child to attend the parish sponsored course for 8th grade students on human sexuality.

_____ I feel it is in my child's best interest **to participate in homeschooling** during his/her 8th grade year. I will provide homeschooling by using the resources/textbooks provided by the Office of Religious Education in addition to the Catechism of the Catholic Church. In addition, I will teach my child the values as taught and handed down to the people by the Catholic Church, on issues ranging from abortion, to war, suicide, marriage, divorce, sexuality, the death penalty, etc.

Parent signature _____ Date _____

Student name _____