

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

We Love God. We Love Others. We Make Disciples.



Dear Parents,

This is an exciting time for your family as your child begins formation for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist next year! In line with Archdiocesan polity, children participate in formation for the sacraments through their parishes separately from the ongoing catechetical formation they receive in a Catholic school or parish catechetical program. I am excited to lead you and your child through this formation over the course of the next year! *(This mailing is intended for parents who have children who are entering the 2nd grade or higher who have not yet received the sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion. If you believe that you received this letter in error please contact me so that I can update your parish records. Thank you.)*

In the next couple of weeks we will begin our formal preparation for the sacraments in two ways. The first step is to **register your child online for sacramental formation** through the parish website at www.stjohnsdr.org/sacraments. It is very important that you register your child online by **Wednesday, August 10th** so that I can order enough formation materials in time for our first formation session.

While registering online you will also sign up for a **15 minute family meeting**. This chance to meet with you and your child helps me to get to know your family and how I can best help your child's formation. All families must meet with me before Commitment Weekend on September 10th and 11th.

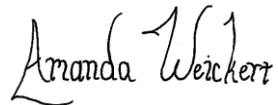
Our sacramental formation sessions this year will be held from **9:45 to 10:45 on Sunday mornings**, September 11th through November 13th for Reconciliation and January 22nd through March 26th for the Eucharist. I ask that you participate in at least five of these group sessions for each Sacrament though you are certainly welcome at all ten. Please complete the weekly lesson and activities at home when you and your child do not participate in the group session. I know that schedules are extremely hectic and I hope this flexible model will meet the needs of your family. If it does not, please contact me; I am happy to meet with you to discuss other formation formats. Please see the enclosed schedule for more details.

We will be using an interactive scripture-based program this year called Go Seek Find: Discover God's Treasures. I hope your child will discover the joy of the Sacraments through this engaging, active and fun program! To cover the cost of this program there will be a \$40 book fee for each child. Please bring this \$40 to the family meeting along with a copy of your child's baptismal certificate if they were not baptized at St. John's. *Scholarships are readily available. Please contact me for details.*

I look forward to meeting all of you in the next several weeks! Even before we meet there are many things you can do as a family to begin preparing your child for the sacraments. Reading bible stories together, praying each night and before meals, and participating in the Mass as a family each weekend are great ways to help your child grow in their relationship with God. I strongly encourage you to begin or continue these essential aspects of formation!

If you have any questions about Reconciliation, the Eucharist or anything else please feel free to contact me; it would be a joy to meet with you and speak together about our beautiful faith. Please let me know if there is anything I can do to help you or your family during this sacramental formation process. You are all in my prayers!

In joy,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Amanda Weickert".

Amanda Weickert

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