

2011-2012

*Spirit and Saints
Faith Formation
Handbook*

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Welcome to the Spirit & Saints Faith Formation Program. **Please take a few minutes to read this handbook.** The Pastor and the Director of Faith Formation are always available to discuss the program and any questions you may have about our policies and procedures. With issues relating to individual student conduct or curriculum, please feel free to talk to the Director of Faith Formation, Ginny Duschner at 252-0535 or email: faith.formation.ginny@hotmail.com.



An Overview of Our Program Goals

The Spirit and Saints Faith Formation Program was designed to provide Catholic Christian faith formation for all members of The Church of the Holy Spirit, St. John Cantius, and St. Anthony's parishes. One of our primary responsibilities includes faith formation opportunities for students from Kindergarten through Graduation for our public school children. Those who attend Catholic School will also join us in preparing for the Sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, and Confirmation.

Your child's faith formation began when you held your child in your arms during Baptism and promised to be the primary educators of your child in matters of faith and morality. When your child is of school age, more formal education, organized by your parish, complements what you have already been teaching your children through word and action. You are, and will remain, one of the strongest influences on your children's spiritual development, and we hope to offer you **reinforcement and support** through this program. **Our ultimate goal is to assist parents in the religious formation of their children** by giving them tools and resources which help them share with their family the essential teachings of the Catholic Faith. We also strive to provide an experience of worship and prayer in a community setting in our classrooms to help young people grow a mature spirituality grounded in communal prayer.



What needs to be done before you start?

Active and authentic participation in the sacramental life of the church requires preparation.

1. Before you enter into the Spirit & Saints Program the child should be baptized in the Christian faith. If your child is not baptized please consult with the pastor to make arrangements.
2. **PARENTS PLEASE NOTE:** As a prerequisite for entering the Spirit & Saints Confirmation Program:
 - a. The reception of the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist.
 - b. **Full participation up to grade 9 in the Spirit & Saints Faith Formation Program, equivalent preparation in another parish program, or participating in a pastor-approved home-schooling program is presumed and required.**

Notification of absence:

Parents are asked to call us at 252-0535 before 5:00 p.m. when a student will be absent from any given class session.

For the safety of the children, when students are absent and unaccounted for, our volunteers will make every attempt to call the contact number given to us to inquire about the student's absence while the class session is still in progress.



In order to benefit from religious education instruction **consistent attendance is absolutely essential.** Frequent absences disrupt the continuity of the lessons and cause extra work for the volunteer teachers and staff who then have to help the student "catch up" on missed lessons. Please note also, that late arrivals will interrupt the class during prayer. **OUT OF COURTESY FOR THE TEACHERS, PLEASE BE ON TIME FOR CLASSES.**



Parent/Director Communication

To keep parents informed of important information going on in the parish and in the Faith Formation Program, there is a section in the weekly church bulletin highlighting the major happenings in the grade school, high school and youth ministry programs. Each parish web page also has Faith Formation links that you can use to find forms, get information, and find contact information.

The website for St. Anthony is: <http://www.stanthonys.net>

Holy Spirit is: <http://www.holyspirit-stcloud.com/Main.html>

St. John Cantius: <http://www.stjohncantius.org>

SAS Facebook Page is listed under GinnySASScott

Class Cancellations

SAS will follow the lead of the public school system with regards to cancellations due to inclement weather. **If the St. Cloud Public School System has cancelled classes or evening events, our Faith Formation classes will be cancelled as well.**

In case of bad weather, every effort will be made to have the decision about cancellations made by 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, and we will put a message on the answering machine at the following numbers: 252-0535 and 251-3764, and 251-5966. You can also check the Holy Spirit, St. John Cantius and St. Anthony web pages for announcements.



Tuition

All tuition paid will remain in the SAS account for use in forming the faith of the children and youth of our clustered parishes. Tuition fees pay for your child's books, classroom supplies, speakers, sacramental preparation events, workshop fees for teachers, teacher appreciation gifts, resource books, teachers' manuals and occasional surprises for the children. The tuition for 2011 - 2012 is \$65.00 for the first child, \$55.00 for the second child, and \$45 for each additional child.

Please note Spirit & Saints Faith Formation Program is committed to insuring that each child has access to religious education regardless of economic circumstances. If, for any reason, you are not able to pay the tuition prices outlined, please talk to the pastor or the director.*

Discipline Policy

Out of regard for our Volunteer Catechists, we ask and expect all students to be willing to assist in their own learning process. All students will show respect for other students, teachers, and all adult volunteers. All students will be held accountable for damage to school or church property and materials.

Disruptive Behavior: A student's behavior is disruptive when their actions become a distraction to the other students and/or impedes the teacher's ability to present the lesson.

- ✓ If a student becomes disruptive or rude, the teacher will ask the student to discontinue the offending behavior.
- ✓ If the student does not respond to correction, and the teacher feels the student is impeding her/his ability to teach, the student will be sent to the office of the Director of Faith Formation.
- ✓ The Director will talk to the student and make a phone call to the parents to explain what has occurred.
- ✓ If the student is sent to the Director's office again, a meeting will be scheduled with the parents and student to agree on the student's future behavior before the student will be allowed to return to class.
- ✓ If the student cannot adhere to the rules of the classroom, parents will be given home schooling materials to complete with the student and return to the Director. The student can return to the program the following school year if they return the completed home schooling materials.



CURRICULUM



Students in grades K– 6 will be using the Harcourt Brace series “Called to Faith.”

Students in 7th and 8th grade will be using Harcourt Brace Publisher’s “Living our Faith” series: “Jesus” text in the fall and “Sacraments” text in the spring.

8th grade will be using the “Morality” text in the fall and will continue their study of issues of morality through presentations, movies and discussion in the spring. 8th graders will also prepare for and take the Basic Knowledge Test as a pre-requisite for Confirmation preparation.

The 9th grade class will be going through the Catholic Youth Handbook, which is a compendium of the Catholic Catechism in youth friendly language. They will be expected to complete required reading and vocabulary worksheets.

The 9th grade class will be expected to attend a day-long retreat and participate in any class projects that are scheduled.

Confirmation preparation:

In the spring of the year, the sophomores in all three parishes will receive a letter inviting them to come to an Orientation session. The requirements of the Confirmation Program will be explained to them at that time, and they can choose to start the process immediately or choose to wait until a later school year to prepare for and receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Confirmation preparation courses will be offered for any student in grades 10, 11 and 12.



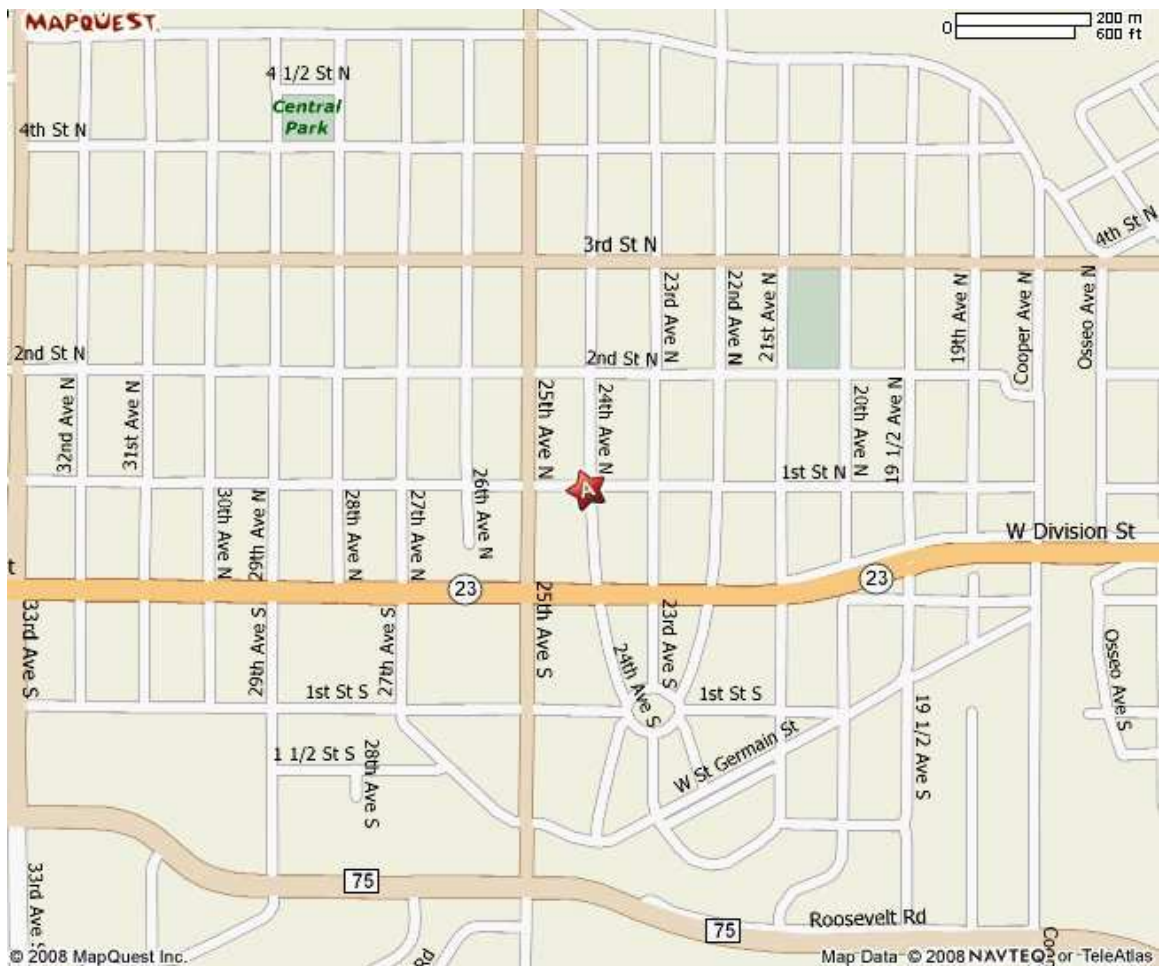
All classes for grades K – 9 will be held from **6:30 to 7:30 p.m.** at the St. Anthony Center.

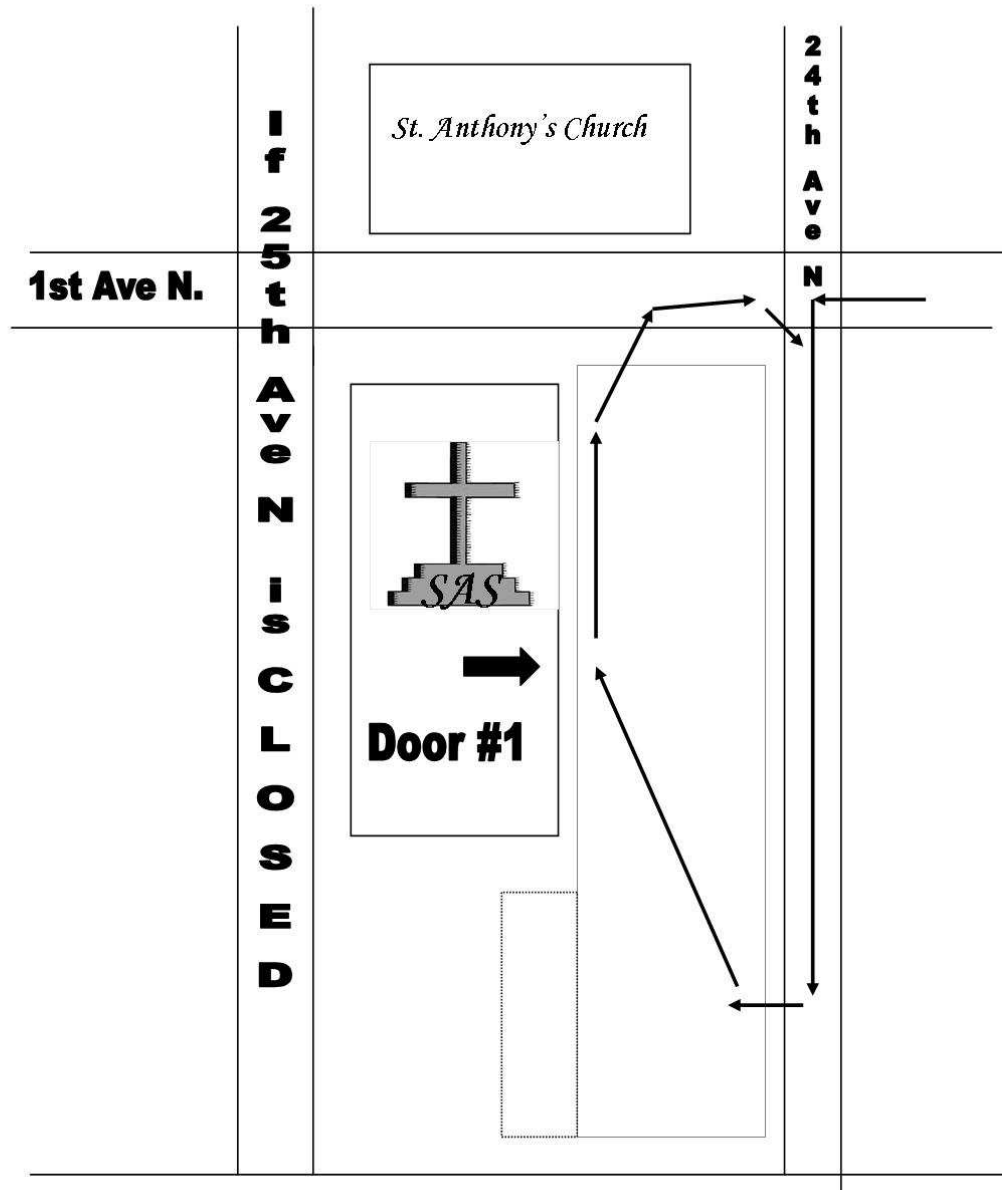
(See attached Map for Directions)

DIRECTIONS TO BUILDING WHERE K-9 WILL MEET:

St. Anthony's_Cener: 2405 1st St. N, St. Cloud, MN 56303

Take Division St. to the cross-street of 25th Avenue. The school is one block north of Division St. on the intersection of 25th Ave and 1st Street. Enter the parking lot from the East side using 24th Ave. N. If 25th St. is blocked enter using the streets northeast of the building.





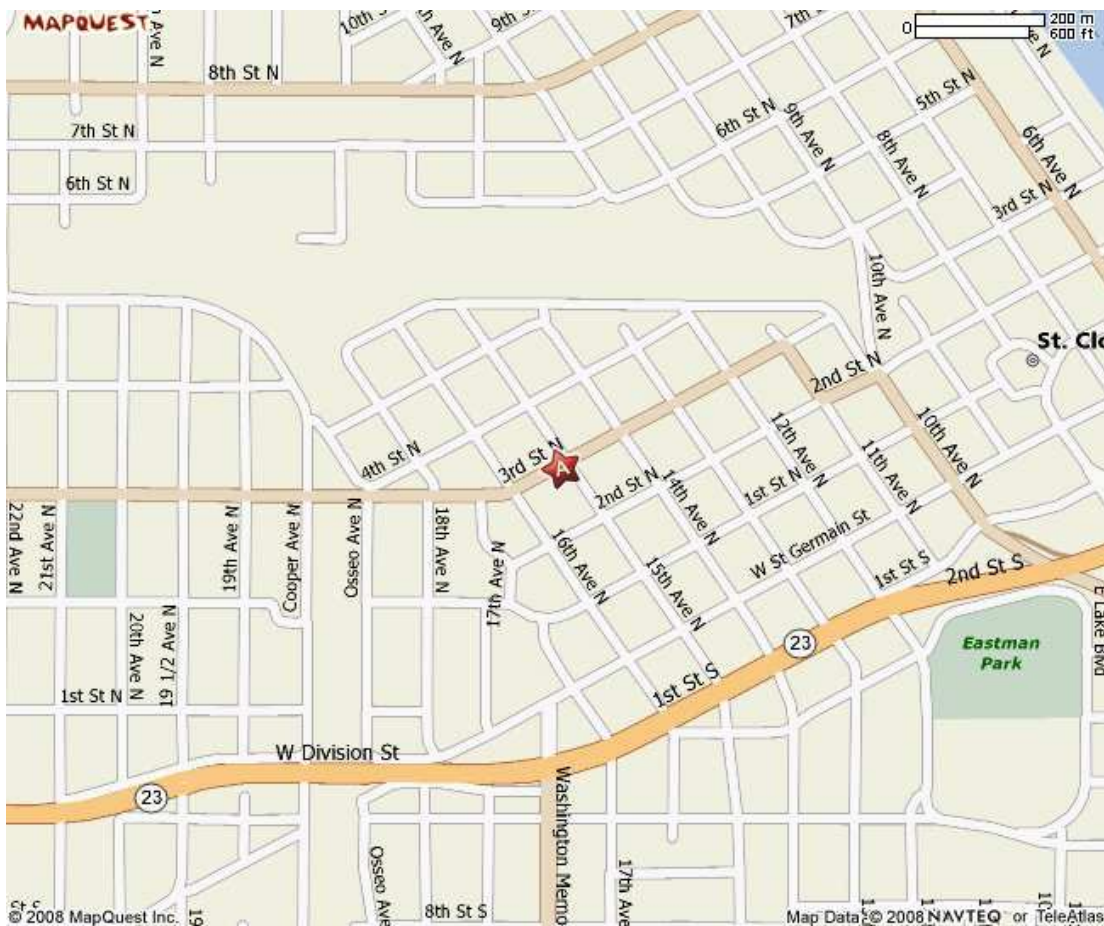
Division Hwy 23

Drop off your children in the following way: Enter through the east entrance to the parking lot on 24th Ave. N. Proceed to Door #1 and drop off your child there. Exit the parking lot at the northern end.

DTS(Discipleship Training Sessions) for Confirmation will be held at St. John Cantius parish from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.

St. John Cantius Church: 1515 3rd St. N. St. Cloud, MN 56303

From Hwy 15 go East on 3rd Avenue. Follow until 15th St. Intersection. Church is on the left. Parking in rear – entrance on East side of building.



Confirmation
 Shaded - K - 9
 Lines - No Class
 ☒ is FOFA Event
 Focus on Faith for All
 7:00 p.m. - Free

Sept 11						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2 3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

Oct 11						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	30	31				

Nov 11						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4 5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

SAS Open House is
 Sept. 19 - 21
 Noon - 7:30pm
 St. Anthony Center
 Enter Door #5.
 Vacation Bible Sch

Dec 11						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2 3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Jan 12						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Feb 12						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29			

First Reconciliation: ☎
 St. A/SJC: 12/3
 HS: 12/10
 First Eucharist ☎
 St. A: 4/22
 HS: 4/28 & 29
 SJC: 5/6

Mar 12						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2 3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Apr 12						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

May 12						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4 5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

SAS 2011-12

Aug 12						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2 3 4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Spirit and Saint Faith Formation Program is a cooperative effort of the
 parishes of St. John Cantius, St. Anthony and Holy Spirit.
 2405 1st St. N. St. Cloud, MN 56303. Phone: 252-0535
 Email: faith.formation.ginny@hotmail.com
 Classes: October through May 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Contact Information

Spirit & Saints Faith Formation Program

2405 1st St. N.

St. Cloud, MN 56303

(320) 252-0535

FAX: (320) 251-0664

Pastor: Fr. Tom Knoblach – osapientia@juno.com

Associate Pastor: Fr. Matthew Crane – fathercrane@gmail.com

Director: Ginny Duschner – faith.formation.ginny@hotmail.com

Parish Offices:

Holy Spirit Church: 251-3764

St. Anthony: 251-5966

St. John Cantius: 251-4455

Spirit & Saints Advisory Council Members

Holy Spirit:

Jane Hall

Lisa Anderson

Mary Ann Rindelaub

St. Anthony:

Lori Wagner

Jacinta Kroll

Carla Miller

St. John Cantius:

Mary Ruth Bzdok Mulbah

Veronica Montag

Homeschool Representative:

Deanna Otte