

***Religious Education Program***

***2009-2010***

***St. Francis of Assisi***

***Belleville, WI 53508***

***424-3681***

**Rev. Kenneth Klink**

**Dottie Love, CRE  
(Pre-K – 6<sup>th</sup> grade)**

**Anne Richardson, CRE  
(7<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> grades)**

**Pre-K through 6<sup>th</sup> Grade:**

Children are assigned to a session time, either 8:30am or 9:45am. All classes will be held in the Parish Hall (old building).

For safety purposes children Pre-K – Second grade are to be dropped off and picked up at their classroom by a parent or older sibling. We will not allow your child to go into the parking lot or surrounding street to meet you at your vehicle.

\*\*If your child is to go home with another person other than a family member their teacher should be notified at the start of the class.

Please pick up your child on time. Teachers are trying to attend mass after classes and should not have to wait with your child.

## ***Grades 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>***

*Religious Education classes for grades 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> meet on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm and are dismissed by 8:00 pm.*

*Classes begin the Wednesday after the third Sunday of September and continue for six weeks. In the Spring, classes resume on Ash Wednesday and run for another six weeks.*

*For the 2009-2010 school year, classes will be September 23<sup>rd</sup> through October 28<sup>th</sup> and in the Spring, February 17<sup>th</sup> to March 24<sup>th</sup>.*

*All classes meet in the church hall. If you have any questions, contact Ann Richardson.*

## ***Confirmation***

*Students wishing to be confirmed in the Catholic Church begin instruction in January of their junior year in high school and are confirmed in the fall of their senior year.\*\**

*Classes meet on the first Wednesday of the month (Jan.-May and Sept.-Oct.) at 8:00 pm. Attendance is mandatory. Other requirements are explained in class. If you have any questions, contact Anne Richardson or Father Klink (424-3681) or 258-0004 (ans. service).*

*\*\* Religious Education Classes open to people of other ages – see Father Klink.*

**Religious Education Schedule  
September 2009 – May 2010  
Pre-K through Sixth Grade**

September	20, 27
October	11, 18, 25
November 1 <sup>st</sup>	- First Reconciliation Preparation 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade Parent/Child Session
November	8, 15, 22
December	6, 13, 20
	• Christmas Program December 13 <sup>th</sup> Performance beginning at 2:00pm at St. Francis of Assisi
January 24 <sup>th</sup>	- First Communion Preparation 2 <sup>nd</sup> grade Parent/Child Session
February	7, 14, 21
March	7, 14, 21
April	11, 18, 25
	• Palm Sunday March 28 <sup>th</sup> (no class)
	• Easter April 4 <sup>th</sup> (no class)
May	2 (last class)

Group First Communion Mass and Retreat  
August 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> 2010

**Religious Education Schedule  
2009 - 2010  
Seventh through Eleventh Grades**

7<sup>th</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup> Grades

September	23, 30
October	7, 14, 21, 28
February	17, 24
March	3, 10, 17, 24

Eleventh Grade

Confirmation Classes will begin on  
Wednesday, January 6, 2010. They are held the  
first Wednesday of every month. The  
Confirmation date will be announced a later  
time.

If you have any questions please contact  
Pre-K – 6<sup>th</sup> grades: Dottie Love  
7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grades: Ann Richardson

St. Francis of Assisi Religious Education department is dedicated to assisting the family with the cultivation of a foundation for the growth of our children's faith. The catechists share their knowledge, love of Christ, and faith experiences freely with our children as a way to demonstrate Christ's love for all of us.

It is important to remember that we should be working together to help our children find their place in our church community. Religious education provides information about our Catholic traditions, but faith begins at home.

As parents, you are the primary teachers of our faith.

The catechists are here to provide you and your children with resources and support, but without parental involvement these lessons are meaningless. We encourage you to take an active part in your

children's faith formation, and we are here to answer any questions that you may have.

The program that St. Francis of Assisi uses in the elementary grade levels is published by Silver Burdette and is titled, "Blest Are We." This series provides information on scriptures, Catholic Traditions and social justice issues which together help our children develop into well rounded Christians. These lessons also provide our children with moral standards to deal with a society that often contradicts the teachings of Christ.

Children learn by example. Both catechists and parents must provide living examples for our children. By working together, we will help to prepare the foundation that is needed for our children to continue to grow in their faith.

## Registration and Placement

Registration for the next Fall session of Religious Education classes takes place during the month of April. All current families are emailed a registration form and letter indicating fees (\$20.00 per child with a family maximum of \$50.00) and what the deadline date is. Announcements are placed in the bulletin as reminders to parents and to new families.

1. Families that are currently enrolled in religious education classes and have returned their registration forms by the deadline are first placed in their current session times.
2. Any family requesting a change in their session times and have returned their registration forms by the deadline are then placed according to availability on a first come basis.
3. New families who have returned their registration forms by the deadline will then be placed according to availability and on a first come basis.

4. Registrations received after the deadline will be placed according to availability on a first come basis. Regardless of their previous assigned session times.

Announcements for Late Registration are placed in the bulletin in August.

Registration forms are available in the gathering space at St. Francis of Assisi Church or online at [www.bellstmarys.org](http://www.bellstmarys.org)

Families who do not received their desired session times can be place on a wait list, for the current year only, until an opening becomes available.

Notifications are emailed to the families the first part of September notifying each family of their assigned session times. There will also be a calendar for the school year and a parent handbook attachment.

## **Behavioral Guidelines and Disciplinary Policy**

As we enter into this new year, I would like to remind parents of some guidelines for attendance to the religious education program.

**\*\*Classes are scheduled to begin promptly at 8:30am and 9:45am. Tardiness is very distracting to both the children and the catechists. Having children to their classrooms by the start of the session is appreciated.**

**\*\*Make sure children are prepared to be in class. A good breakfast helps children to maintain their focus on the lesson. Also, **do not allow children to bring distracting items from home, such as, toys, skateboards, rollerblades, etc.****

**\*\*Please help your children to understand what type of behavior is expected of them while at religious education classes. We have had several incidences in the past couple of years where children are disrespectful and disruptive in the classroom. This type of behavior cannot and will not be tolerated.**

## **Disciplinary Policy:**

1. The child will first receive a verbal warning.
2. If the child continues to misbehave, he or she will be sent to the coordinator/director to discuss their behavior and finish out the remainder of the class session in her office.
3. The third offense will result in a phone call to the parent to come and pick up the child. Discussion of appropriate behavior with child and parents will result.
4. The parent will be required to sit in the classroom with the child to monitor appropriate behavior.
5. Finally, the child will be removed from the program until behavior is modified.

## Community Service

St. Francis of Assisi is dedicated to providing services for those in need. Religious education consists more than learning the Catholic traditions; it is learning how to implement those teachings into our everyday life.

We want the children of our Parish to feel as if they are active members of the St. Francis of Assisi congregation. Through the religious education classes, the children are offered several service projects and encouraged to actively participate.

Collecting nonperishable food items for the Food Pantry. These items are counted and a leaf is placed on our Jesse Tree so that the children can see over time the difference they can make in a person's life.

Collecting aluminum can tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. The children have been doing this for the past six years. Each year filling a large garbage bag full of tabs. More information will follow.

Individual classes are also encouraged to develop and carry out a service project. During the school each class is encouraged to engage in a special service project that will help children understand Christ's teaching of helping others in need.

We encourage all families to encourage acts of service to those members of our community and around the world who are in need.

We also encourage parents to volunteer with the religious education program activities to demonstrate to our children the importance of the catholic faith to your family

Anyone wishing to share you time, talents and faith experiences with the children of our Parish family please contact Dottie Love, CRE.

**In case bad weather forces us to cancel classes, please check the following sources:**

Check the email account you provided at on the registration form.

NBC channel 15 6-7:00am

[www.nbc15.com](http://www.nbc15.com)

During the winter months weather can sometimes be a problem. Use your best judgment as to whether you should risk coming out into the elements.

A good rule of thumb is:

--Large amounts of snow or ice may prohibit people coming to class.

--Extreme low temperatures make it dangerous for people to come outside.

**Your child is a precious gift from God, use caution.**

If it is questionable as to whether religious education classes are being held, please escort your child inside the building.