



St. Vincent de Paul
CATHOLIC CHURCH



Walking with each other
Encountering Jesus
Growing as disciples
Living our faith

Religious Formation Family Newsletter *August 2, 2019*

We Extend a Warm Welcome to our New and Returning Families!

Dear Parents,

We hope you and your family have had a blessed and restful summer. We are looking forward to partnering with you to pass our Catholic faith down to your children this year.

The first night of Religious Formation class and Parent Session is **Wednesday, August 28th.**

For the first night of class, we ask parents/designated adult to walk in their child inside the school entrance. You will find your child's assigned room posted in the Upper Commons of the school. Then we ask you walk your child down to their room and meet their catechist.

Parents will then go to the Church for the Parent Session. Children will join parents for the closing prayer in Church. We will have an ice cream social following the closing prayer. Dismissal will then be in the Upper Commons of the school.

More information will be provided in the next Family Newsletter.

Please review the Master Calendar (see link below) for events happening throughout the year.

Have a wonderful rest of summer, great start to the new school year, and we look forward to seeing everyone on August 28! Blessings to you and your family!



Catechists Needed-What is a Catechist?

A catechist is someone who shares their faith experiences with the children in our parish. Our Religious Formation program is volunteer based, and we still are in need of couple co-catechists to share their faith experiences, pass on our great Catholic traditions, practices, prayers and rituals. We provide you with the materials, training and support. Child care is provided to younger children of catechists. Below are the grade

levels where a catechist or co-catechist is needed. Please contact Jennifer McMahan at mcmahanj@svdpomaha.org or 402-493-1642 for more information. Thank you for your consideration!

Wednesday 4:30pm-5:45pm

5th Grade Catechist

Wednesday 6:15pm-7:30pm

4th Grade Catechist



We would like to welcome Fr. Augustine Gama our Associate Pastor. Fr. Augustine had been serving as Associate Pastor at Mary Our Queen Parish for the last three years. Before that assignment, Fr. Augustine had been serving three years as Associate Pastor at Saint Philip Neri Parish in Florence (north of North Omaha). Fr. Augustine is from the Archdiocese of Songea in the southern

area of Tanzania in eastern Africa. When you ask Fr. Augustine about his family, he responds that he is from a family of three brothers and four sisters. He comes from a large extended family of aunts, uncles, cousins, nephews, nieces and many others. Fr. Augustine points out that he is the only family member to go outside his country.

Is your child asking hard questions about faith? Do you wish you and your family could deepen your faith life? Alpha is a powerful way to meet other people seeking to answer their questions and grow in authentic faith.

*Are you living life to your potential? What about your faith life?
What is God's plan for your life?*

Try Alpha!

Alpha is a course that explores the essentials of the Christian faith within the context of community, honest discussion, and life stories. If you are looking to go deeper in your relationship with Jesus and the Holy Spirit, try the Alpha course.



Topics include: *“How Does God Guide Us?”*, *“How Can I Be Filled with the Holy Spirit?”*, and *“How Can I Make the Most of My Life?”* Each week we share a meal, a video through the Alpha Film Series, and authentic discussion on life’s most important questions. There is no cost and childcare is available. **Tuesdays, 9-11am** or **Wednesdays, 6:30-8:30pm** starting **September 3rd/4th**. Check out our website for more info: <https://www.svdpomaha.org/faith-formation/alpha>

More Information

SAFE ENVIRONMENT CLASSES ARE COMING TO SVdP.

Why do I need to attend a Safe Environment class? Anyone who assist with youth programs (coaches, teachers, catechists, child care, etc.) , pantry, communion to homebound/care facilities will need to be certified. You can now register for classes to complete Safe Environment training at the parish. See upcoming dates below:

Tuesday - August 20, 6:30-8:30pm

Saturday - September 7, 9-11am

Monday -September 30, 6:30-8:30pm

Register online by going to the Archdiocese of Omaha website: <https://archomaha.org>

For those who have never taken a class, registration is a multi-step process which includes submitting to a background check. If you have taken a class, but cannot remember your username/password, please contact Jennifer Veit, Safe Environment Coordinator or Ray Bentzen (SVdP School). Please do not start a new account. Please contact: Jennifer Veit if you need help registering for a class or have questions. veitj@svdpomaha.org or 402-452-2239



Gift Family/Gift Bearers

This sign up is to schedule Gift Families/Gift Bearers for the weekend Masses. Gift Bearers actively participate in the celebration of the Mass by presenting the gifts of Bread and Wine at the altar and require no special skill or permanent ministerial duty, and yet it is a beautiful and significant part of the Mass performed by lay people.

Any occasion can be a time to serve as a Gift Bearer: a birthday, an anniversary, an upcoming sacrament, or just a "happy day." Or maybe you would like to bring up the gifts on the memorial of a loved one.

Questions or need help? Contact Scott Haddick at 402-493-4965.
Click on the button below to find a date to bear the gifts at Mass!

Volunteer

**To report an absence from Religious Formation Class, please
click [here](#).**

Calendar

Wed. Aug. 28: 1st day of classes, Parent Session and ice cream social

Wed. Sept. 4: Classes

Please review the Master Calendar & Family Handbook (links below).

Important Links:

- Master Calendar 2019-2020, click [here](#).
- Family Handbook, click [here](#).

Religious Formation Office:

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 7:30am-4:00pm, Wednesday while Religious Formation classes are
in session 7:30am-7:30pm

Phone Number: 402-493-1642

Parish Website: <http://www.svdpomaha.org>

Jennifer McMahan, Director of Religious Formation, mcmahanj@svdpomaha.org

Hannah Keisling, Director of Youth Formation, keislingh@svdpomaha.org

Jenni Vankat, Pastoral Minister and Director of Adult Formation, vankatj@svdpomaha.org

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