



REFF
Religious Education Faith Formation
Handbook

**St. John's Catholic Church
P.O. Box 389
New Rockford, ND 58356
947-5325**

Jesus

The Way, the Truth, and the Life.
John 14:6



2016 – 2017 School Year

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Mission Statement

We are committed to provide all members of the parish with religious learning opportunities aimed at fostering a personal faith and expressing that faith through service and fellowship in the life of the Holy Spirit. It is our mission to see our faith passed on to our children and on to others.

Pastor: Fr. Bernard A. Pfau

Director of Religious Education: Sharon Eversvik

St. John's REFF Committee

The St. John's Religious Education & Faith Formation Committee serves in an advisory capacity to the Pastoral Council and the Pastor. Major areas of responsibility are policy development and education.

Committee Members:

Adults:

Tiffany Schafer, Amy Steele, Mary Kay Price, Connie Ystaas

Youth:

Anna Salazar, Alyssa Thumb, Justyne Klocke, Christopher Becker, Teddy Allmaras, Shayla Thumb, Billy Steinbach

Discipline Policy

After the teacher has warned the student to correct his/her behavior the student will be sent the REFF Office at the discretion of the teacher.

The FIRST time a student is asked to leave the class; he/she is accompanied to the office by the teacher. An explanation is given for the student's removal. The student is given a project to complete while waiting to be dismissed. Notification will be made to the parent/guardian regarding the disruption.

The SECOND time a student is asked to leave the class; he/she may not return until a verbal apology is given to the teacher and the class. Notification will be made to the parent/guardian regarding the disruption.

The THIRD time a student is asked to leave the class; he/she is suspended from the class for two weeks. The parent/guardian will be called and asked to pick up their student. The teacher will assign work to be completed by the end of the suspension.

Damages

Parents will be responsible for any willful damage done to property by their children. Parents will be notified and billed accordingly.

Registration

Registration is held during the month of September. Notice of registration will be placed in the bulletin. Only registered parishioners of St. John's and its missions can register for our programs; unless special permission has been granted by the pastor. Parish registration forms are available in the REFF Office for your convenience.

Tuition

To operate the program effectively parents are asked to pay tuition. A schedule of tuition is set yearly by the REFF committee. The REFF fee for this school year is \$40.00 per student (cap. \$120.00/family). In the event that a family is in a position that tuition is a financial burden; please call the office for an appointment to make arrangements. Tuition is waived for students of parents that teach a REFF class.

Field Trips

Occasionally teachers will plan a field trip for their class. Trips to the 4th Corp or Nursing Home are the most common. In the event that a field trip is planned; the teacher will notify the REFF Office and parents.

NO FOOD OR DRINK

May be consumed in the classroom; this includes pop, candy, and gum. Special arrangements may be made to use the Parish Hall. It is the class's responsibility to clean up the Parish Hall at the end of the event.

Welcome to the new Religious Education and Faith Formation year! We hope that the information included is both informative and useful. The Parish is anxious to assist parents in developing the Catholic Faith of their families. As individuals and as a parish we need to be committed together as a family to develop the faith of our fathers. We need to be committed by participating at Mass every Sunday and Holy Day of Obligation. We need to be committed by taking responsibility for our children's attendance at all classes. We need to be committed by sharing our time, talent, and treasure with the church community.

The celebration of the Eucharist is central to our Catholic identity. The opportunity for classes to participate in Liturgies will be announced throughout the year.

The celebration of Reconciliation is received in the second grade. The sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist will be received in the third grade. If you have special circumstances please contact the coordinator or the Pastor.

Please read the following pages as they contain policies of our REFF Program.

Christ's Peace,

*Fr. Bernard A. Pfau, Pastor
Sharon Eversvik, DRE*

Schedule

Grades K– 6	Wednesdays	3:30 – 4:45PM
Grades 7 – 12	Wednesdays	7:00 – 8:15PM

Attendance

Students registered in (K – 12th) grade are required to attend REFF Classes regularly.

Parents should contact the office if a student will be absent or tardy. Office staff will contact parents if repeated absences occur.

Cancellation of Classes

If school is canceled on any scheduled class date there will be NO REFF CLASSES held that day. You can hear class cancellations on the following radio stations:

KDLR	1240 AM	Devils Lake
KQZZ	96.7 FM	Devils Lake
KDVL	102.5 FM	Devils Lake
KZZY	103.5 FM	Devils Lake

Transportation

Bus #8 is provided in the afternoon for children coming from the New Rockford/Sheyenne Public School. Parents or guardians are to come into the Church to pick up their children after REFF class in the afternoon. Children not picked up immediately after REFF class will call parents and wait in the office.

Personal Conduct

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a courteous and Christian manner. Students are expected to treat pastors, teachers, other adults, and students with respect.

Caps, hats, and other head gear are not to be worn in the building. Shirts containing reference to sex, alcohol, drugs, obscenities, or profanity are not acceptable attire. Students should dress modestly. Jackets are not to be worn in the class. The student should bring a sweater to class if they feel they will be cold.

During rain and snow conditions the students will be asked to remove their boots and outdoor shoes at the entrances or to clean boots and outdoor shoes before entering the building. We appreciate your cooperation in keeping our facility clean.

When students are scheduled to attend Mass; it is requested that they dress appropriately.

All electronic devises (including cell phones, mp3 players, etc.) must be turned off or they will be confiscated until the parents pick them up.

T-Shirts

Each student will receive a REFF T-Shirt when they register for kindergarten. It is recommended that the students wear their REFF T-Shirts to Wednesday REFF classes and REFF sponsored activities. These T-Shirts will help our REFF students identify with St. John's Parish and their participation in the REFF classes.