

## Fifth Grade

**Theme:** Through the sacraments, the Church celebrates the life-giving signs of Christ's saving action in our lives.

**Objective:** To help the child become a conscious and active member of the Church through an appreciation and celebration of its sacramental life, and to experience and understand the rites of the sacraments.

## Sixth Grade

**Theme:** God's saving actions are found throughout history. The Bible, written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, records God's plan of salvation. The emphasis is on the Old Testament.

**Objective:** To introduce the children to the Sacred Scriptures and to help them appreciate that God is still speaking to them today through this holy collection of books.

## Seventh Grade

**Theme:** The personality, mission and mystery of Jesus and the Church as the Mystical body of Christ. The emphasis is based on the Creed and New Testament.

**Objective:** To acquire a fresh, historically rooted and factual understanding of Jesus and to explain the nature and mission of the Church.

## Eighth Grade

**Theme:** The nature of morality and the principles involved in moral decision-making based on Catholic teachings; and the study of Liturgy.

**Objective:** To help the student know the Truth more clearly, to choose it more surely and to appreciate the fundamental role their Faith plays in the development of morality; and to develop a deeper appreciation of prayer and worship.

## Ninth Grade

**Theme:** God's unique and personal love for each person and the sacrament of Confirmation

**Objective:** To grow and deepen the faith of each student in God's special love and to understand the sacrament of Confirmation as the reception of the Holy Spirit who comes to strengthen us in faith, hope and love.

## Teens for Christ

**Theme:** Growth in the student's awareness of how personal faith in Jesus Christ, the Catholic Church and a life of discipleship are integrated to enable him/her to live a fulfilling life.

**Objective:** To give a solid, practical Catholic foundation to life experiences, especially those that pertains to teens.

# St. John Neumann Parish School of Religion Columbia, South Carolina



Pastor: Rev. Frederick F. Masad

Is God calling you?

“The Church has always considered catechesis one of her primary tasks, for, before Christ ascended to His Father after His resurrection, He gave the apostles a final command – to make disciples of all nations and to teach them to observe all that He had commanded.” *Catechesi Tradendae (para. #1)*

We are looking for committed Catholics willing to share their faith with children and adults in our parish. We offer training and support for this apostolate. Please call the staff for more information.

#### Staff

Cherie Smith, Pastoral Associate/Director of Christian Formation

788-3252 ext 21

Lori Marciano 788-3252 ext 20

#### Office of Christian Formation hours

Monday – Friday 9 am – 4 pm

Wednesday evenings 6:30 – 7:45 pm

#### Class times

Grades K-4 through 9

Wednesday evenings 6:30 – 7:45 pm

Adult Education

Wednesday evenings 6:30 – 7:45 pm

Teens for Christ

Sunday evenings 7 pm – 8:30 pm

#### Sacraments

Baptism: Classes for parents and sponsors are held in the Teen Room. For more information or to reserve a place, please call the office at 788-0811.

First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion are normally celebrated during 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade. Students must have completed First Grade Religious Education to enter sacramental preparation class.

Preparation for Confirmation is in 9<sup>th</sup> Grade. Students must have completed 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Religious Education to enter this sacramental preparation class.

#### Rite of Christian Initiation

Are you interested in becoming Catholic or do you have an older child who has not received sacraments? Please call the Office of Christian Formation at 788-3252 ext. 21.

## Curriculum Overview

### K-4

Theme: Each person is a unique and special child of God.

Objective: To develop love of God and our families, and respect and appreciation of everyone and everything God has put into our lives.

### Kindergarten

Theme: God created the whole universe and everything in it.

Objective: To help young children develop awareness that all of creation is a gift from God, Who created all things out of a deep, abiding love for us and wants us to share that love with others.

### First Grade

Theme: God is our Father, Who loves us. Jesus is the Son of God, Who tells us about our Father. The Holy Spirit helps us to be holy.

Objective: To help the children know, love and serve God, Who gives us life and grace, the wonders of creation and the promise of eternal life.

### Second Grade

Theme: Jesus comes to nourish and strengthen us with His grace in the sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist.

Objective: To present Jesus as the model for Christian living and to develop the children's participation in and knowledge of the sacraments.

### Third Grade

Theme: Jesus continues His life and mission today and throughout history through His one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

Objective: To deepen the child's understanding of the Church and to help the child experience the Church as a Christian community

### Fourth Grade

Theme: As God's people, we are called to live as Jesus did, choosing a life of love, characterized by obedience to God and service to others.

Objective: To help the children form their consciences according to the teachings of the Catholic Church, and to learn the basis of Christian morality especially as taught in the Old and New Testament.