

*7th Grade Confirmation Candidate  
Handbook  
2011-2012*



*Saint Anne's Church  
Garden City, New York*

## *Faith Formation Team Staff*

*Pastor: Msgr. Thomas Harold 352-5904 x204*

*Lyn Beck - Director 488-1032*

*Tricia Brodersen - Secretary 488-1032*

### *Office Hours:*

*Monday 9:30 am - 5 pm*

*Tuesday 9:30 am - 5 pm*

*Wednesday 9:30 am - 5 pm*

*Thursday 9:30 am - 5 pm*

*Sunday 8:30 am - 12:30 pm*

The Faith Formation staff has an office in the rectory as well as the office in the school. The school office is opened during scheduled class hours: ( Tues, Wed 3:30pm – 5:15pm, Wed evening 6:30 pm – 9:00pm when class is in schedule & Sunday from 8:30 am – 12:30 pm ). At all other times the staff is in the rectory. If you need to pick up material in the school, please call in advance and we' ll be happy to meet you at your convenience.

Dear 7<sup>th</sup> Grader,

Welcome back to Saint Anne's Faith Formation after what I trust was a relaxing and fun-filled summer. I hope this year will be a wonderful faith-filled year as you begin the initial preparation for the reception of the sacrament of Confirmation

As 7<sup>th</sup> graders you are entering your first year in the sacramental preparation course for Confirmation. Last year you spent the year focusing your course work on the Old Testament. This year you will be focusing on the life of Jesus, the meaning of His Kingdom, the Christian Life, the Paschal Mystery with an introduction into the early church and the church today.

This year we are asking each student to do 3 Mass reflections which are to be handed in to your teacher on the assigned due date. You may download these reflection forms from the website [www.stannesgc.org](http://www.stannesgc.org) under the Faith Formation tab. This site also contains valuable information.

Wednesday evening classes (7:00pm - 8:30 pm) and the Sunday morning school based classes are scheduled approximately twice a month (8:30am - 10:00am). You will need to refer to the calendar for specific class dates. The home based classes meet at a time and frequency determined by the teacher. More than 1 unexcused absence during the year or excess absences without a medical excuse will result in a Make Up assignment before admittance to the 8<sup>th</sup> grade program. If you are missing a class, please have your parent call the office to report your absence before the class meets.

Also, please note that there are 2 mandatory presentations for all seventh grade students this year. Please make arrangements to attend on Wednesday October 26th at 7P/M and Wednesday March 7th at 7P/M.

This year you will be required to participate in a minimum of ten (10) hours of service. Some of you may have done some service over the summer. Regardless of how many hours completed during the summer we will credit only 5 of those hours toward this requirement. Please do not be limited by the number 10 - service is an essential part of your commitment as Baptized Christians - and so it should never really end. There are many opportunities for performing service and it is very important that whatever you select as a service initiative, it must be something that will have an impact on another person(s). The service can be done for the church, the local community, your neighbor or any project helping those less fortunate than us. It must also be volunteer work performed for someone(s) other than your family. This is not to say that you shouldn't be doing things to help your family. On the contrary, as a member of a family this should be a given. The adult supervising the project must sign all service work. In addition, each student will be required to complete a Confirmation Service Journal on one service initiative. The Service Journal and The Faith Formation Service Hour Record are included in this packet. These must be completed no later than March 11, 2012.

This year you will be asked to write your Christian Autobiography. We ask you to write your own story...your autobiography...your life as a son or daughter, as a member of the Catholic Church, and as a young person from St. Anne's parish. We hope you have been able to learn some new things about yourself this year and can see how God has been working in your life. Included in the handbook is a list of questions that are a guide to help you. Talk to your parents, teachers, brothers and sisters. Think about how you have grown over these last few years, ask God to help you and then...TELL YOUR STORY. This will be due by December 21, 2011.

Enclosed you will also find a calendar for the year.

Sincerely,

Lyn Beck  
Director Faith Formation

Tricia Brodersen  
Secretary Faith Formation

## Christian Autobiography Reflections

Due December 21, 2011

*The following questions are given to help you reflect on what you want to write about in your Christian Autobiography. However, the autobiography is to be written in a well thought out essay. It is not to be written in a question and answer format.*

*Think about your past:*

*What have your parents told you about your baptism?  
What are some of your first memories about God?  
What did you learn about God from your parents, grandparents, godparents,  
Sisters, brothers, and other members of your family?  
What did you learn from your teachers or catechists?  
What are some of the ways you used to think and feel about God?  
How did you learn to pray? What prayer do you like best? Why?  
What do you remember about your Communion? How did it change you?  
Was making your First Communion important to your growth as a Catholic?*

*What about now:*

*How do you feel about God today?  
What do you like best about being Catholic?  
What are some of the things you have learned about yourself this past year?  
How do you feel about belonging to St. Anne's parish?  
What about attending Mass? What do you like and what do you find  
difficult?*

*How about the future:*

*What name are you considering choosing for Confirmation? Why?  
Who are you considering choosing as a sponsor? Why?  
How do you plan to be active in the parish as a teenager?  
What are some of your hopes and dreams?*



CONFIRMATION SERVICE JOURNAL 2011-2012  
(due March 11, 2012)

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle one: Church Service      Community Service

Description of Service: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of hours completed: \_\_\_\_\_

Please answer the following questions on the next two pages:

**Answers MUST be written in  
paragraph form detailing what this service  
opportunity meant to you.**

1. Jesus said, "Love your neighbor as yourself". (Mt. 22.39) Who was the "neighbor that you served this week? What social needs or organization did you try to help?

2. What did you accomplish as you served your "neighbor"?

3. What did you learn about your "neighbor" during your service experience?

4. What did you learn about yourself? How did you feel afterwards?

5. What do you really think Jesus meant when he said to "love your neighbor as yourself" now that you have participated in community service?

## 7th Grade Schedule of Classes & Important Dates

### September 2011

September 21st: First Wednesday Class

September 25th First Sunday Class

### October 2011

October 12th: Wednesday Classes meet

October 16th: Sunday Classes meet

October 26th: 7:PM Mandatory 7<sup>th</sup> grade meeting for ALL classes (Sunday, Wednesday and Homegroups)

### November 2011

November 2nd: Wednesday night Classes meet

November 6th: Sunday Classes meet  
1st Mass Reflection Due

November 9th: Wednesday Classes meet  
1st Mass Reflection Due

November 20th: Sunday Classes meet

### December 2011

December 4th: Sunday Classes meet

December 14th: Wednesday night Classes meet

December 18th: Sunday Classes meet  
Christian Autobiography is due

December 21<sup>st</sup>: Wednesday night classes meet  
Christian Autobiography is due

### January 2012

January 8th: Sunday Classes meet  
2nd Mass Reflection is due.

January 11th: Wednesday night Classes meet  
2nd Mass Reflection is due.

January 22nd: Sunday Class meets

January 25th: Wednesday night Classes meet

### February 2012

February 5th: Sunday Classes meet

February 8th: Wednesday Classes meet

February 12th: Sunday Classes meet

February 29<sup>th</sup>: Wednesday night Classes meet

### March 2012

March 7th: 7:PM Mandatory 7<sup>th</sup> grade meeting for ALL classes (Sunday, Wednesday, and Homegroups)