

St. Gilbert Religious Education Program
231 E. Belvidere Rd.
Grayslake, Illinois 60030
847-223-3071
August 30, 2024

Dear Parents,

The great adventures of the summer make it difficult to think about fall and the beginning of the Grades 7-9 Program. Regardless, it is time to think about the fall classes. If you haven't registered, please do so or bring the registration form with you to sign-up. You can find one on the website, www.stgilbert.org, at the entrances to the Church, or from our office. If you can, please pay the full tuition before the end of September. If you want to be placed on a payment program, inform Lisa P. at the time of sign-up or call her in the office on Monday or Wednesday mornings, 9:00 – 12:00 noon.

Here is the fall syllabus. Look over it carefully with your son/daughter.

If your son/daughter will be in Grade 7 and/or is the first one in the family to go through the Grades 7-9 Program, there is a meeting on Saturday, September 7 at 4:00 pm in the Multi-Purpose Room just for you. It will include an explanation of the program as well as an opportunity to sign-up for classes. Your student is certainly welcome to come and sign-up for him/herself.

Sign-up will begin at 4:00 pm and continues until 4:45 pm in the hall outside the parish center. If you are unable to come on Saturday, you can sign up on Sunday morning on Google form <https://forms.gle/8RZcdysWhkoVTy1WA> or call the office.

Students who have graduated from St. Gilbert School and who are going to one of the area Public High Schools must register in the Religious Education Program. These students are asked to obtain 10 credits during this year to enable them to enter the Confirmation Program in Grade 10. ***(I ask that these students do not take the 3 and 4 credit hour courses. These have been covered at St. Gilbert School.)*** I encourage these students to take courses during the year! Don't wait until the summer!!!!

If you have any questions, please call the office (847-223-3071).

In Christ, Sr. Donna

A Service – Volunteer with PLAN PANTRY Contact person Michael Pimpo # 847-302-9904 Website is www.afreeplan.com (1892 Nicole Lane, Round Lake Beach, Illinois 60073) 1 Credit (depending on the amount of time.)

Students are asked to contact Michael at the Food Pantry and he will set up the time for service. He will make arrangements for the student to assist in the Food Bank, distributing or stacking food. He might also ask the students to collect food from their neighborhoods. In some instances, parents will be asked to accompany the student with the project.

Service Opportunities with Youth Ministry

Look at the parish bulletin for opportunities with the Youth Minister regarding service and contact Kathleen Karrigan (Youth Minister) by phone or email. (847-223-5875) youthmin@stgilbertschool.org. 1 credit is given for every 3 hours of service.

Service – 1 Credit - Serving food and cleaning up for a gathering in the Parish Center on September 22 from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Three students from noon until 1:30 pm and 3 students from 1:30 – 3:00 pm. Dale Davis is in charge of this service.

Service – INTERNATIONAL FEST XVIII – November 3, 2024

There will be opportunities to assist the International Fest XVIII on Sunday, November 3. The fest runs from 12:00 noon to 2:30 pm. The volunteers will work 1 ½ hours for 1 credit and times will run 11:30 am- 3:30 pm (includes clean up). Kathy West will be in charge.

Service – The Ministry of Altar Server is recognized as an important ministry in the parish. For every 10 Masses that the student serves he/she will earn 1 credit under service. Simply keep a record of the date and time of service and hand it in to the Religious Education Office. Note that the student can earn only a total of 3 credits for service.

B Peace and Justice – 1 Credit

Sunday, 8:55 - 10:10 am
September 22, 29 and October 6

This class will explore the documents of the Church, quotes from Pope Frances, and the scriptures in regard to peace and justice.

C. *Introduction to the New Testament and the Study of the Gospels* – 4 Credits

Sunday mornings 8:55 – 10:10 am
September 15, 22, 29 October 6, 20, 27, November 3, 10, 17, 24 Dec. 8

The purpose of this course is to enter more fully into one part of the Sacred Scripture, the New Testament. This study will give the student a deeper understanding of Jesus and what he means for us and for the world. The Gospels will be explored as to the person of Jesus, his life, and his teaching. Becoming familiar with the parables, miracles and the death of Jesus, etc. will bring students new understanding of the scriptures.

G. *Retreat: HOLY FIRE* – sponsored by the Archdiocese of Chicago at the UIC Campus– 3 Credits

Saturday, November 2, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

This experience is offered to the students. It happens every other year. The students will ride a school bus with Kathleen and Volunteer Catechists. A flyer will be available at signup or on the website. Students gather at 7:30 am and return after 4:00 pm.

M. *History of the Catholic Church - 2 credits*

Sunday mornings, 8:55-10:10 am
October 20, 27 November 3, 10, and 17

Every Christian participates in the journey of faith that began with the apostles. Throughout that journey there have been many significant people who have helped shape the life and structure of the Church on earth as we know it today. Events, both within and outside the Church, and the Church's responses to those events have shaped how we experience the Church as a community and institution today. As the Church experiences the new millennium, the story of the Church will continue to be written under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

The students will study . . .
the Church as Community and Institution
the Church as Herald and Servant
the Church as Pilgrim
the Church as Sacrament and Sign

N. *Sacrament of Reconciliation - 1 Credit*

Wednesday evening, November 20, 6:00 – 8:00 pm in Church

Preparation for and participation in the sacrament is the main element of this class.

P. *Vocations – 1 Credit*

Sunday, 8:55 – 10:10 am
November 24, December 8, 15

Students will receive information about the Priesthood, Religious Life, and the vocation of the laity.

X. *Credits earned by attending these programs with Youth Ministry*

Teen Ministry – TGIF 2 Credits (Grade 8 and High School) in the Teen Room

Sunday evening, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Dates for the Fall Semester: September 22, October 13, October 27, November 24, and December 8

STUDENTS ATTEND FOUR SESSIONS FOR TWO CREDITS. Only 2 credits can be earned this way. No need to sign up, simply attend the event and fill out the online form.

L.I.F.E. – LIVING IN FAITH EVERYDAY (GRADES 6 - 8) STUDENTS ATTEND 3 SESSIONS AND RECEIVE 1 CREDIT. (Two credits can be earned this way.)

Sunday afternoon, 4:00-5:30 pm in the teen center. Grade 8 students can choose TGIF or L.I.F.E. events. L.I.F.E. nights are September 22, October 13, October 27, November 24, December 8.

No need to sign up for the event, just attend. There is a form in the Religious Education Office or on line. to be used in reporting the sessions you have attended

PRAYER EXPERIENCES –

Youth Ministry will offer Prayer Experiences once a month for Grades 7-9 from 7:00 – 8:30 pm in the Teen Center on the following dates...

Tuesday, October 22, Wednesday, November 13, and Thursday, December 12. RSVP to Kathleen Karrigan at 847-223-5875 or youthmin@stgilbertschool.org. Attend two of the Prayer Experiences and receive 1 credit. You can only receive one credit this way. List the dates and a brief comment on each of the Prayer Experiences and send it to the Religious Education Office.

REMINDERS

1. Postcards will be sent a week before the session begins. **POSTCARDS WILL NOT BE SENT FOR CLASSES BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 15 or SEPTEMBER 22.**
2. If a student is sick, call the office (847-223-3071) and discuss the matter with Sister Donna. **In a one or two credit course, no absenteeism is allowed. *In a 3 or 4 credit course one absenteeism is allowed.***
3. Please note that some of these courses do overlap!
4. The master book of students' credits will be available at sign-up or call the office.
5. Students who graduated from St. Gilbert should not take the 3 and 4 credit hour courses. Any of the other courses are available to them.