



Family Faith Formation

**ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE PARISH
1233 W. HOLTZ AVENUE
ADDISON, ILLINOIS 60101**

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE
STPHILIPRE@GMAIL.COM
630.543.1754**

FAMILY HANDBOOK 2020/2021

ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

1233 W. Holtz Avenue in Addison, IL 60101
 Phone #: 630-543-1754 Fax #: 630-543-4672
www.st-phil.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PERSONNEL

Nancy McKnight, Director
stphilpre@gmail.com

Barbara Nicolai, Administrative Assistant
 Parish Calendar, Website, & Bulletin Editor
bnicolai@st-phil.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE HOURS

Call 630-543-1754 for office hours.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM TIMES

During the COVID-19 pandemic, all religious education classes will be on-line.
 Grades K, 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, & 7 will be home-schooled with textbooks
 and schedules/materials/on-line resources provided by the Religious Education Office.
 Grades 2 & 8 will participate in Zoom classes with their catechists to prepare the
 students for the Sacraments of First Communion and Confirmation.

ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE CHURCH MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday at 8:00 a.m.
 Saturday at 5:00 p.m. & Sunday at 9:30 a.m. (must register at st-phil.org to attend)
 Confession on Saturday from 4:00 to 4:30 p.m.

ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE PARISH OFFICES

1223 W. Holtz Avenue in Addison, IL 60101

Fax #: 630-543-9858

Phone #: 630-628-0900 (extensions below)

Reverend Steve Bondi, Pastor (x101)

Deacon Phil Heitz, SFO

Deacon Sean McGreal, Pastoral Associate & RCIA (x105)

Carol Schubert, Director of Liturgy (x104)

Steve DiBrito, Business Office Director (x103)

Judy Jaskey, Business Office Administrative Assistant (x102)

Sandi Milazzo & Shar Mirabelli, Parish Administrative Assistants (x100)

St. Vincent de Paul Society (x134)

Bill Wilder, Director of Music (630-543-4015)

ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE SCHOOL

Julie Noonan, School Principal (630-543-4130)

Joann Wheeler, School Administrative Assistant

ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of St. Philip the Apostle Parish Religious Education Program is to communicate Christ and his Gospel message according to the Catholic tradition to the youth and adults of the community, to build a loving faith community, and to commit to the service of those in need.

GOALS

- ◆ To emphasize the importance of faith as a priority in the family reflected in increased involvement in service to others.
- ◆ To provide a shared understanding of the Sunday Gospel and appreciation for the liturgy through use of the Gospel Weekly in class and at home.
- ◆ To provide a deeper understanding, reverence, and reflection on the meaning of the Eucharist for youth and adults.

Parish Website: www.st-phil.org is available for information on all aspects of St. Philip the Apostle Parish life. Check in the religious education section for all program forms, curriculum guides, on-line resources, and any other religious education information.

Catholic Prayer for Catholic Families: Teach your child from the earliest years the basic Catholic prayers. Begin with the Sign of the Cross, the Our Father, and the Hail Mary. Then teach them how to say prayers of thanksgiving to God at meal time and at bedtime. As they grow older, add the Apostles Creed, the Act of Contrition, the Hail Holy Queen, and the Nicene Creed. Teach them the Mysteries of the Rosary which are the basic events in Jesus and his mother's life. Teach your child to talk to God when they are lonely, afraid, or worried about something. Let them know they are never alone. God is always with them. The basic Catholic prayers are found in the back of each student text. Repetition of these prayers is the best way to learn them.

Kindergarten: Sign of the Cross, Hail Mary, Guardian Angel Prayer, Blessing with Holy Water

Grade 1: Our Father, Glory be to the Father, Grace before meals, Begin verbal Mass responses, Genuflection and ritual

Grade 2: Ritual and verbal Mass responses, Simple Act of Contrition

Grade 3: Apostles Creed, Begin learning ritual and process of the Rosary, Simple litany responses

Grade 4: The Rosary, Ritual of Stations of the Cross, Morning Offering

Grade 5: Prayer to St. Francis, Ritual and prayers for each sacrament, Prayer to Holy Spirit

Grade 6: Ritual and prayers for each sacrament

Grades 7 & 8: Nicene Creed

Dear St. Philip the Apostle Families,

Thank you for being a part of a new and exciting way to share faith and grow in faith together as a family. The all new “Family Centered Faith Formation” program at St. Philip is one of the most advanced at-home faith formation programs in the diocese.

Some of the highlights of the program are:

- Regular Catechist Communication
- Loyola Press Curriculum
- On-line Resources
- All new, family centered Gospel weekly resource, WOG Project
- Optional virtual class for Grade 7
- Virtual Sacramental preparation for Grades 2 and 8
- Family faith sharing in the safety and comfort of your home

We hope and pray this year will be enriching and rewarding for all of you. We will do our best to shepherd you through this new learning experience and will strive, as always, to make this the very best Religious Education Program for you and your children.

Included with your materials packet is a schedule for each grade level. You will find it tucked into the front of each book. The schedule is posted on our website for easy access to the online resources. Please visit www.st-phil.org and look for the button on the homepage. It will take you to all the necessary resources for your faith formation.

Please use the WOG Project often and share it with family and friends to enrich your understanding of the Gospels. An explanation of the project and how to use it follows on the next page. A link to the WOG Project Gospel Resource is also on the Faith Formation page of our website. If you notice that there are “missing links,” it is because they are not completed, but will be updated as they become available. All Gospels are posted from September 13 through January 1.

You will find a blue prayer book in your packet titled “Catholic Prayer for Catholic Families.” You will notice an orchid colored paper with a listing of prayers on it. These are the prayers that each grade level are expected to know. Please learn and practice these prayers together.

Please continue to attend or watch Sunday Mass. That is the single best way to unite us as a community of believers and to grow in our faith.

Even though our office will have limited in-person hours this year, you can always reach us by email or by leaving a phone message. We will continue to work on providing new and innovative learning for your family as the year continues.

Wishing you God’s blessings,
Nancy McKnight, Director of Religious Education

Welcome to the Word of God Project!

This faith-sharing Gospel resource was created during the summer of 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic. With churches shuttered and collections bottoming out, parish staffs were faced with a drastic cut in budget. As Director of Religious Education for a small parish in the suburbs of Chicago, I was struggling and praying for a solution to the problem, while still wanting to deliver the best possible religious education experience for our students and families. As summer quarantine and social distancing lingered on, the reality of in-person learning seemed dismal. The answer to my prayer came from a not-so-unexpected source, my daughter! She had been listening to my worries and despair, and she thought of a way to share faith and read the Gospel that is both interesting and thought-provoking. I admit that I was unsure at first but, as I surrendered my anxiety to God and accepted the challenge, I knew that what she had dreamed of was the perfect answer.

The Word of God Project was developed with the gift of many volunteers from around the world who said “yes” when we asked them to help. Most are friends and family or extended family. The readers of the Gospels were affectionately dubbed “WOG’Rs” (Word of God Readers). The WOG’Rs live in over 12 states in the United States and seven different countries. All videos were self-recorded and sent back for editing. Remember--this project was created during the summer! Many of the Advent, Christmas and Lenten Gospels were read by people in t-shirts or tank tops and shorts! Instead of snow and Christmas trees, you will see a lot of sunshine and green leaves. Watch and listen for Gospels read in different languages too! You will hear Spanish, Italian, German, Filipino, Chinese, and even American Sign Language. You will also notice that the title page is color-coded to the liturgical season. WOG’Rs mention what cycle the Gospel is from. All of these are teaching moments for you and your family. Our gratitude is immense for all of these volunteers who worked so hard to record and send the Gospels.

I wrote the reflections and the questions that go along with each Gospel. Please jot down the questions as you hear them and use them for faith sharing with your family. Also, please feel free to share the links to these videos with your friends and family. I hope and pray that you will hear the Word of God through this project. (Listen for a little voice at the end asking, “*Did you hear it?*”)

Finally--my heartfelt thanks and love to my daughter Caroline and to my godson Kevin who helped to create this project and worked tirelessly all summer. Caroline created the structure for the project, recruited many of the volunteers, and helped with the artistic aspects. Kevin did all of the beautiful film editing and wrote and recorded the music.

If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a WOG’R, please email me at stphilipre@gmail.com.

Nancy McKnight, Director of Religious Education

WOG (Word of God) Project
September 13, 2020 – April 4, 2021

Date	Gospel	Questions	Activity
9.13.20	MT 18:21-35	Can you talk about a time when you needed to forgive someone--or they needed to forgive you?	Do something nice for someone you have hurt.
9.20.20	MT 20:1-16	Have you ever been envious of another person because they were paid or praised for the same--or less work than you did? How does this Gospel make you feel now?	Give praise to someone who is really trying hard.
9.27.20	MT 21:28-32	How do you think others might describe you? Does your reputation reflect obedience to God?	Write a sentence that describes you.
10.04.20	MT 21:33-43	Has there ever been a time when you only heard someone give directions, but actually did not listen? Have you ever felt like God was asking you to do something? How did you respond?	Look directly at the person speaking to you – and listen!
10.11.20	MT 22:1-14	How can we learn to love and welcome everyone?	Say hello to someone you don't know.
10.18.20	MT 22:15-21	Has there ever been a time when you lost perspective on your loyalty to God? Were you distracted by a busy life, complacency, or materialistic things? How did you change your thinking?	Watch the 3 Minute Retreat
10.25.20	MT 22:34-40	Has there been a time when you felt the love of God from a stranger or someone else that was unexpected? What is something you can do to show your love for others – especially those in need or despair?	Send a note or card to someone who is alone or sick.
11.01.20	MT 5:1-12a	Who is your favorite saint—why? How can you be a peacemaker?	Draw a picture of something that makes you happy.
11.08.20	MT 25:1-13	What does God mean by “being prepared for His coming?” How can we keep our hearts ready for God?	Go to Reconciliation or pray the Act of Contrition together.
11.15.20	MT 25:14-15, 19-21	What are some of the gifts you see in each other? How can you use those gifts to make a difference in the world?	Talk as a family about your gifts and share them with each other this week.
11.22.20	MT 25:31-46	Has there ever been a time when you had difficulty showing goodness to someone because your own judgment of them stood in the way?	Send a kind note to someone who you may have misjudged.
11.29.20	MK 13:33-37	Where do you find Christ in the world?	Read the paper today and look for a story of kindness.

12.06.20	MK 1:1-8	What are some things that you and your family do to prepare for Christmas? How does God want us to prepare our hearts for Christmas?	Set up a prayer space in your home near the Christmas tree.
12.13.20	JN 1:6-8, 19-28	How do you teach others about God? Do others know you as a follower of Christ by your words and your actions?	Do a random act of kindness for a neighbor.
12.20.20	LK 1:26-38	Has there ever been a time when you thought something was impossible--but God provided a perfect answer?	Pray for someone who is worried, that God will give them an answer.
12.25.20	LK 2:15-20		Sing <i>Joy to the World!</i>
12.27.20	LK 2:22, 39-40	How do you honor and show love to each other in your own family? What has your family taught you about loving God?	Have your family stand together and make hearts with their hands. Take a picture and post it.
01.01.21	LK 2:16-21	How do you honor Mary? How do you honor your own Mother?	Say the Rosary with your family.
01.03.21	MT 2:1-12		
01.10.21	MK 1:7-11	How do you find strength in The Holy Spirit to live a life of Discipleship?	Watch the 3 Minute Retreat
01.17.21	JN 1:35-42		
01.24.21	MK 1:14-20		
01.31.21	MK 1: 21-28		
02.07.21	MK 1:29-39		
02.14.21	MK 1:40-45		
02.17.21	MT 6:1-6		
02.21.21	MK 1:12-15		
02.28.21	MK 9:2-10		
03.07.21	JN 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42	Has there ever been a time when you or someone you know felt like an outcast? How did faith and prayer help to change the situation?	
03.14.21	JN 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38	Have you ever felt blinded from your faith in God because of poor choices or sin? How did God reveal himself to you so that your sight was restored?	
03.21.21	JN 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45		
03.28.21	MK 15:1-39		
04.04.21	JN 20:1-9		