



## Faith First Together

We are so excited about our upcoming school year! During the summer we spent time with teachers and parents discussing ways to make our program even better. What is new? Well we have added a PRE-K class, are adding more activities for our 5th and 6th graders and are adding a special group opening time.

**Faith First Curriculum:** We have adopted a curriculum by RCL Publishing called "Faith First" for all grade levels (K-8). This curriculum has been spoken highly of at the Diocese. The program is designed to bring families together in their faith journey. Each grade level will be discussing similar topics during the same weeks. Best of all the four pillars of faith (Creed, Morality, Sacraments and Prayer) will be covered each year! Our classes will be conducted by teaching teams of three.

**Children's Program! (PreK-6th graders):** Our Children's Program provides religious education, crafts, and special events such as All Saints Celebration and Christmas parties. Classes are filled with fun games to help the learning process. This year we are adding a group time before students go to their individual class for music, skits and game time. Dismissal Dad's help transition the kids back to their parents after class.

**Youth (7th-12th)!** Our Youth Night and Religious Ed are still being finalized, look for details on Sept. 10. Adults if you are interested in volunteering please turn in a volunteer sheet.

**Sacraments:** First Reconciliation and First Communion instruction for students in 2nd grade and older will be incorporated in our morning program. However, students will be required to attend Sunday afternoon retreats for reviews and special activities. Dates for the retreats will be communicated later. Confirmation classes will begin later this fall. Students are required to be in 10th grade or older. ***Please inform us if you have a student in need of these sacraments.***

**Registration fees:** We do not collect registration fees for our program. Instead we ask for donations. We will have a second collection during an upcoming Mass to help cover the cost of our program. If you would like to mail a donation to the parish office, please note in the memo field (CRE donation). Approximate cost per student is \$30.

**Registration Dates:**

8/26/07 –9/17/07 Registrations after Mass

**First Day of Classes:**

9/30/07 8:40-9:45 Grades K-6 Aledo HS Cafeteria (Parents please stay for orientation)

**Teachers & Volunteers Workshops:**

We have organized some wonderful workshops to help our teachers and assistants prepare for the school year. The following are workshops are mandatory for teachers and teacher aides. All volunteers are required to take the Keeping Children Safe course, once every 3 years.

Date	Topic	Time	Location
9/09/07	Workshop #1: "Welcome to Faith First" (Intro to the curriculum)	12:30-2:30 p.m. (lunch provided)	Parish Office
9/23/07	Workshop #2 "Nuts & Bolts" (Structure of our CRE program and year)	12:30-2:30 p.m. (lunch provided)	Parish Office
9/18/07	"Keeping Children Safe" Mandatory for volunteers (open to all parents)	6-9 p.m.	Parish Office
9/30/07	Day One (teachers arrive early to set up classrooms)	8:20—9:45 a.m.	Meet in the HS Cafeteria