

TNT - Family Fun Events

Halloween Party
Thursday, Oct 27, 2016

Buffet in Bethlehem
Thursday, Dec 1, 2016

Breakfast with The Easter Bunny
Saturday, April 8, 2016



2016 — 2017

Religious Education Handbook
St. Bronislava Parish

3200 Plover Road
P.O. Box 158
Plover, WI 54467-0158
Phone: (715) 341-6700

Religious Education Staff

Father Ed Shuttleworth
Deacon Vern Linzmeier

Julie Studinski
Director of Religious Education & Youth Ministry
(Grades 7 – 12)

715-341-6706 or email:
julie@stbrons.com

Religious Education
Confirmation
Youth Ministry
Social Ministry

David Masak
Youth Minister
Edge Coordinator
(Grades 7 & 8)

715-341-6700 x 114
david@stbrons.com

Youth Minister

Jody Glodowski
Director of Religious Education
(Grades 1 – 6)

715-341-6700 x107 or email:
jody@stbrons.com

Religious Education
Baptism
First Reconciliation
First Eucharist
RCIC
Gospel Time
Children's Ministry

Kim Hodgson
Religious Ed. and Youth Ministry Assistant

715-341-6706 x102 or email:
kim@stbrons.com

NEW Involvement Hours



According to the gospel of St. Mark, “Anyone among you who aspires to greatness must serve the rest, whoever wants to rank first among you must serve the needs of all.” When the bishop lays his hands on you during your Confirmation and seals you with the Holy Spirit you are saying “Yes” to the mission of Jesus. In other words ***you are choosing to live a life of service.***

Living a life of service and being involved means keeping your ears open for possible serving situations. People in need live in our neighborhoods, our local church community as well as in our city, nation and the world. Our goal is to have you become involved at St. Bronislava and in our local community.

Involvement opportunities are posted in the bulletin, on our website, and in the gather space. There are many ways to be involved at St. Bron's and in the community.

Involvement hours DO NOT include helping your friends or family members; we should always care for and visit our elderly or ill relatives. Involvement hours must be above and beyond what you should be doing for friends and family. Babysitting and raking leaves for friends and neighbors is not community service. That's not to say you shouldn't do things to be nice, those things are just not counted toward your requirement. Only work done for charitable non-profit organizations are eligible hours—work done at for-profit business are not considered involvement hours. Hours completed during the school day, or as part of a school class, are also not considered involvement hours.

Carryover

- ◆ Hours are accumulated from seventh grade on. You are encouraged to continue to go above and beyond the “requirements.” At the end of each school year, awards are presented for students with the highest number of hours.
- ◆ Your hours are not stackable from year to year. Each year you must complete the required number of hours in that year. We are flexible as to the months that overlap. For example, if you worked the summer before you entered 8th grade, those hours can either go to finish up your 7th grade requirements, or if you already have earned your 7th grade hours, they can count toward the start of your 8th grade requirements.
- ◆ If you have not been a member of Saint Bron's in 7th and 8th grade, please let us know and we will adjust your minimum requirements accordingly.

All hours must be signed by the individual in charge of the event including a phone number for the individual. Parents are not allowed to sign for a student unless the parent was the group leader of the event. ***All forms must be submitted within 90 days*** of the date of event to be counted. Forms are located outside of “The Rock”. This is also where you drop off completed forms. Forms can also be downloaded off the parish website at: www.stbrons.com - ***youth ministry tab.***

We can only give credit for a maximum of 10 hours for any one “Non” St. Bron's event. Example: If your teen works at the concession stand for Hockey games, the total amount of hours for 1 year cannot exceed 10 hours. If your teen is involved in an on-going community event that you feel should be counted, contact Julie Studinski to discuss.

If you ever have any questions, feel free to contact the Religious Education office.

9th Grade Confirmation Program



Students are expected to attend all scheduled classes
See candidate commitment form

Attend Sunday Mass weekly

Attend Confirmation Retreat

30 Involvement hours—Due April 1st
(15 hours at St. Brons - see pg. 15 for Involvement Information)

9th Grade Schedule - Wednesdays, 7:00 – 8:30 PM

*(Dates & times may change for special events)

All class sessions begin in the Church promptly at 7:00pm unless otherwise noted

October 12	February 1
October 19	February 8
October 26 (NO CLASS Catechist & Volunteer meetings held)	February 15
	February 22
November 2 - Sponsor form due	March 1 - *(Ash Wednesday)
November 9	Sunday March 5 - Confirmation Retreat
November 16	March 8
November 23 (NO CLASS)	March 15
November 30 - Saint report due	Sat. March 25-Confirmation Interviews option 1
	March 22 (NO CLASS)
	March 29
December 7	
December 14	Sat. April 1-Confirmation Interviews option 2
December 21 & 28 (NO CLASSES)	April 5 *(Youth Rally)
<i>Have a Blessed and Merry Christmas</i>	April 12
	April 19 *Confirmation Rehearsal
January 4 (NO CLASS - Catechist & Volunteer meetings held @ St. Joe's)	Sunday April 23
January 11	Confirmation Mass at 4:00 pm.
January 18	Students arrive at 3:15pm
January 25	



A major emphasis at St. Bronislava is the role of the parents/guardians as the primary educators of their children. We have catechists and volunteers giving their time, talents, and energy in our parish Religious Education and Youth programs, so as to teach and to assist you and your children into a deeper relationship with Christ.

We don't just live out our faith inside the walls of our churches and of our homes. We're not to be of the world, but we're to be in the world. We're citizens of an earthly kingdom as well as a heavenly one. Citizens participate in the culture, everything from what children are taught in school to what appears on TV screens.

When it comes to *how* Christians should be active in culture, people of good will may disagree. Some will argue to limit involvement to what is sometimes referred to as the "social gospel" found in Matthew 25 when Jesus instructs His followers to feed the hungry, clothe the naked and care for the sick. And certainly Christians are, and should be, engaged in such activities. But is that enough.

St. Teresa of Calcutta *canonized* September 4, 2016





Please pray for all of us as we enter into this exciting year of Faith Formation!

Behold I make all things new; a good argument to encourage us to go unto Christ by prayer for renewing grace. Surely he that makes new heavens can make new hearts, he that renews an old world, can renew us in the spirit of our minds, and make old things pass away, and cause all things to become new.

We ask that you:

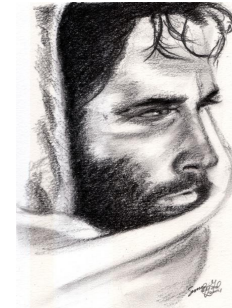
- Attend Mass together weekly as a family. Family participation in a parish Mass celebration is fundamental in the overall Religious Education of our Catholic faith.
- Pray regularly as a family. Encourage your children to share prayer and actively participate in Mass. Special observances of the Church seasons would make Jesus more alive in your family.
- Read, and if necessary, respond to all communications sent home. Letters are one way of keeping you informed of what your child is learning and of important information about the program schedule or offerings.
- Volunteer your services. It takes the time, talent and resource of our entire parish community to provide excellent religious education programs for our children and youth. We are asking all members of our adult community and all high school youth to take a moment to consider what gifts they can offer.

A Prayer for Families

God and Father of us all, in Jesus, your Son and our Savior, you have made us your sons and daughters in the family of the Church. May your grace and love help our families in every part of the world be united to one another in fidelity to the Gospel. May the example of the Holy Family, with the aid of your Holy Spirit, guide all families, especially those most troubled, to be homes of communion and prayer and to always seek your truth and live in your love. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.** Jesus, Mary and Joseph, pray for us!

7th & 8th Grade Confirmation Program

Students are expected to attend all scheduled classes



Attend Sunday Mass weekly

15 Involvement hours for 7th grade –Due April 1
(10 hours required retreat . At least 1/2 of remaining 5 hours must be at St. Brons - see page 15 for Parish Involvement information)

20 Involvement hours for 8th grade - Due April 1
(10 hours at St. Brons-see page 15 for Parish Involvement information)

7th & 8th Grade Schedule Wednesdays, 7:00 – 8:30 PM

**(Dates & times may change for special events)*

All class sessions begin in the Church, unless otherwise noted.

October 5
October 12
October 19
October 26 - (NO CLASS - Catechist & Volunteer meetings held)

November 2
November 9
November 16
November 23 (NO CLASS)
November 30

December 7
December 14
December 21 & 28 (NO CLASSES)
Have a Merry & Blessed Christmas

January 4 (NO CLASS - Catechist & Volunteer meetings held @ St. Joes)

January 11
January 18
January 25

February 1
February 8
February 15
February 22

March 1 *(Ash Wednesday)
March 8
March 15
March 22 (NO CLASS)
March 29

April 5 *(Youth Rally)
April 12



Elementary

Wednesday

4:00 PM to 5:15 PM Grades 1-5 or

5:30 PM to 6:45 PM Grades 1-5 & 6



All class sessions begin in the Church, unless otherwise noted.

September 21
September 28

October 5
October 12
October 19

October 26 - (NO CLASS - Catechist &
Volunteer meetings held)

November 2
November 9
November 16
November 23 (NO CLASS)
November 30

December 7
December 14 (Elementary Christmas Program
*5:15 - **All** families)

December 21 & 28 (NO CLASSES)
Have a Merry & Blessed Christmas

January 4 (NO CLASS - Catechist &
Volunteer meetings held @ St. Joes)

January 11
January 18
January 25

February 1
February 8
February 15
February 22

March 1 (Ash Wednesday-Classes
scheduled with Liturgy of the Word
with Ashes Service)

March 8
March 15
March 22 (NO CLASSES)
March 29

April 5
April 12

“The right and duty of parents to give education is essential, on account of the uniqueness of the loving relationship between parents and children...It is irreplaceable and inalienable, and therefore incapable of being entirely delegated to others or usurped by others. ...The most basic element (of this education)...is parental love, ... with the values of kindness, constancy, goodness, service, disinterestedness and self-sacrifice that are the most precious fruit of love.”

*On the Role of the Family in the Modern World, Apostolic Exhort.,
Pope John Paul II #36*

Resources for our families at St. Bronislava

Ask us about Family Life including Parenting (all ages!), Natural Family Planning, Adoption, Marriage, Divorce, Men's and Women's ministry, Grief ministry, and more.

Check out the Diocese of La Crosse Office for Marriage & Family Life!

http://diolc.org/ministry_resources/family_life/

The Office for Marriage & Family Life places itself at the service of parishes and families so that they can answer the call to holiness and become communities of life and love in Jesus Christ.

Catholic Faith Formation

Grades 1-5

Our program, grades 1-5, use the Faith & Life series textbooks in the classroom. In union with the Diocese of La Crosse, Office of Catechesis and Evangelization, we integrate their Religion Curriculum into our lessons. To view the Parent Version of the Dioceses of La Crosse Religion, go to http://diolc.org/ministry_resources/catechesis/relcur.htm

Teens grade 6-9

Students in grades 6-9 experience a combination of Life Teen's middle school Edge program, One Eight Confirmation program, and the new Chosen program. One Eight is Life Teen's Confirmation program based on Acts 1:8, *"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."*

Ultimately, the goal of these dynamic programs is to win over the hearts of teens that should mold them into life long disciples of Christ. This is done by offering a model of faith formation that aims to present the truths of the Catholic faith in a hands-on and relevant format. It allows the youth to learn about their faith through

Program Policies

It is important that we create an environment of safety and respect that promotes learning and cooperation. The following plan will be implemented in our building to present an orderly, respectful and welcoming religious education program. The following guidelines will be followed throughout the year.

When attending Mass, classes or visiting the Church building we expect....

- Single file lines in the hallways & in route to Church.
- No running or loud voices in the hallways.
- No chewing gum in Church or classrooms.
- Children should not use the personal items located in the classroom desks. (those items are the personal property of the children attending St. Bron's Catholic School)
- Hats will not be worn in the building. (unless there is a medical reason)
- Shirts will not have offensive words or pictures.
- Skate/roller shoes will not be worn in the building.
- Practice of reverence, including blessing self when entering & exiting the church, genuflecting before & exiting pew, and avoiding personal conversations while in the church.
- After class, children are to remain inside building or on the sidewalk until their transportation arrives.
- I-pods and other electronic devices are not allowed at any time.
- Cell phones are only allowed for calling parents when necessary after class, no other use will be allowed.

Respect:

- An atmosphere of learning is built upon respect and concern.
- Boundaries will be set to promote learning and cooperation.
- Honor our catechists who share time, talent and often their treasure with your children.
- Respect for all property must be fostered.

Sharing:

- "We share because we are grateful."
- Parents may be asked on occasion to provide treats to share.
- A spirit of generosity motivates various collections for the needy.

Tuition:

- *No one will be denied a religious education for financial reasons*, if you are unable to pay tuition in full at registration, installment payments can be arranged with the Religious Education Office by calling 341-6700.

Incident weather:

- If the Stevens Point Public Schools cancel classes due to a storm, all evening RE classes will be cancelled. When a storm occurs and the Public Schools have not cancelled their classes, please call to confirm that RE classes have been cancelled, a recorded message will be available at 341-6700 or check www.stbrons.com.



Reconciliation (First Confession) (2nd Grade)

If you have questions regarding First Reconciliation, call Jody at 715-341-6700 ext. 107.

Parent Information Session

- ◆ Wednesday, October 19, 2016 at 4:15 p.m. in the Joseph room **or**
- ◆ Wednesday, October 19, 2016 at 5:45 p.m. in the Joseph room

Reconciliation Retreat, Celebration of Reconciliation & Luncheon: Saturday, December 3, 2016 (9:00 a.m.)



Eucharist (First Holy Communion) (2nd Grade)

If you have questions regarding First Eucharist, call Jody at 715-341-6700 ext. 107.

Parent Information Sessions

(Attend **one meeting in February** and **one meeting in March**.)

- ◆ Wednesday, February 1, 2017, at 4:15 p.m. in the Joseph room **or**
- ◆ Wednesday, February 1, 2017 at 5:45 p.m. in the Joseph room
- Wednesday, March 15, 2017 at 4:15 p.m. in the Church **or**
- Wednesday, March 15, 2017 at 5:45 p.m. in the Church

Eucharist Retreat and Practice for Celebration

Saturday, April 22, 2017 (9:00 a.m.)

Celebration of the Sacrament of the Eucharist

Sunday, April 30, 2017 at 12:30 p.m.

May Crowning Celebration—May 7, 2017, at 10:30a.m. Mass

Gospel Time

Sunday during 10:30 Mass

(Preschool – 1st Grade)



Beginning in October the Spirit touches the lives of our little ones in their own Liturgy of the Word. They are called from the parish assembly to the Joseph Room where the Gospel story is told and children are engaged in song and/or activity as a response. Children return to church for the Eucharistic Prayer. If you have any questions regarding Gospel Time, call Jody at the Religious Education Office (715-341-6700 ext. 107).

RCIC - The Rite of Christian Initiation of Children (RCIC) welcomes those children and youth who are coming into the Catholic Community for the first time or returning after a prolonged absence. These children and youth will celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation – Baptism, Eucharist and, if appropriate, Confirmation – on Holy Saturday at the Easter Vigil Liturgy. For more information, please contact Jody at the Religious Education Office (715-341-6700 ext. 107).



RCIA - The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) welcomes those parents and adults wanting to join the Catholic faith or haven't received Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, Holy Communion or Confirmation. For information regarding RCIA, please contact Deacon Vern Linzmeier at 715-344-4326 ext 101 or vern@stbrons.com



Program Policies Continued:

Attendance and Punctuality:

- Classes are important! Regular attendance is required to maximize learning and a sense of community. If a child is absent without previous notification, a call may be made to the parents.
- **If your child will be absent due to illness or family emergency, please call the RE Office at 341-6700 to notify us.**
- Classes begin promptly; be on time. Each minute counts.
- Pick up students on time.
- Students requesting early dismissal must have a written note from a parent or legal guardian.
- Confirmation is a 3-year commitment in grades 7-9 and attendance is very important. Parents may be asked to meet with the Director or Pastor if students miss more the 2 classes in a school year.
- Students who miss more than two classes during the final year of preparation may be asked to wait until the next year to receive the Sacrament.



St. Bronislava RE Drop-off & Pick-up Information



St. Bronislava's Religious Education program has developed drop-off and pick-up procedures to help promote safety and traffic efficiency in our parking lot. We must enforce these procedures and we need the patience, consideration and cooperation of each parent and driver.

The first few weeks of RE classes are notorious for traffic jams in the parking lot. Parents should follow the flow of traffic (see map on page 8-9), stay in their cars (if in the pick-up or drop-off line) and follow the procedures to alleviate many of the headaches and to expedite the pick-up/drop-off traffic.

Each week, all students will report directly to the church for opening prayer and brief announcements, talk, or activity. We will begin large group prayer promptly at the start of class. Any students arriving during prayer will be instructed to enter the church reverently, locate their seat, and join in prayer. After prayer, students will be led to their classroom by their catechist.

At dismissal time, 1st & 2nd grade students should be picked up from their classroom and teachers/volunteers will escort the 3rd - 6th grade students to the designated sidewalk areas on the North (Willow Street) side of the building. "Loaded" cars will then drive away as the pick-up line continues to pull forward for "loading."

No students should walk across a line of cars unescorted by an adult. Parents may opt to park in the parking lot instead and walk across the line of cars to retrieve students from the sidewalk, and then escort them back to the car. Parents are asked to assist in keeping students safe by reminding their child of this procedure.

Students in grades 7-9 should enter the main doors under the carport.

Would you volunteer for 15 minutes each Wednesday to assist in further enforcing parking lot safely? We need 1-2 adults on the "pickup" sidewalk at the following times on Wednesdays...5:10-5:25pm & 6:40-6:55pm. *Contact Jody in the Religious Education office for more information.*

Parking Lot Instruction & Safety

Drop-off and pick-up times present potential dangers in the parking lot. To ensure safety for all the young people, please read this carefully and be sure to follow all instructions implicitly.

- ◆ We highly recommend that 1st & 2nd grade students be escorted into the church and from their classroom by an adult. They should not be walking through the parking lot unescorted.
- ◆ All drivers dropping off students must enter the southeast Hwy 54 parking lot driveway, then follow the **one-way traffic** path to drop off students next to the sidewalk on the south side of the building. Students should enter the main doors under the carport
- ◆ The line of traffic along the west and north sides of the building will be for pick-up from the school and north Gathering Space. **No pick-ups for grades 1-6 are to be made on the south (Hwy 54) side of building.**
- ◆ **All traffic must continue in a one-way direction** as indicated on the map, stopping only to allow children to enter and exit cars.
- ◆ Children must **enter and exit cars on the right side**, going directly to the sidewalk and avoid walking in between cars.
- ◆ When waiting in the “drop-off” or “pick-up” line, vehicles should pull as far forward in the line as possible.
- ◆ **Cars are not to be left unattended while in the drop-off or pick-up lines.** Traffic must flow as quickly and efficiently as possible. Parents desiring to speak with another adult or student should do so by parking their car in the designated parking lot.
- ◆ Drivers should be extremely cautious and maintain a **slow speed** near the building and in parking lots. If parked, avoid backing up into a traffic path.

