

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade Religion**  
**Mrs. Trausch**

Dear 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents,

I am your child's religion teacher and your partner on their journey in faith throughout the school year. The textbook, **Finding God, Following Jesus**, is used to guide and support the curriculum. The Bible will serve as a major source of information for class discussion. The focus in seventh grade is the story of Jesus, His life and lessons. Through study of the New Testament, and the four gospels in particular, students will be encouraged to contemplate the stories of Jesus and try to understand how His teachings fit into their lives.

We incorporate the **Second Step Program** into our religion curriculum. We will continue to build on and practice social skills to help students become better able to use them. This program focuses on skills that will help your student succeed in school and in life, including: Empathy and Communication, Bullying Prevention, Emotion Management and Coping, Problem Solving and Decision Making, and Substance Abuse Prevention. Parents will be active participants in this program, discussing these topics with your student as we cover them in class.

We will also be including the beginning steps of the Confirmation program and will be completing the first six sessions in the **Decision Point** book. Presentations and discussions will be covered in class while the discussion pages in the textbook will be completed for homework. (If your student should miss any of these classes, the presentation videos can be accessed on line at: <https://dynamiccatholic.com/confirmation> )

**Worship** is a routine part of our Catholic school life. Students are expected to offer prayer, sing, and actively participate in mass, as well as other liturgical celebrations. We will enjoy God's presence by being fully engaged in all of our faithful gatherings.

**Grading** and evaluation in religious education measures students' knowledge and skills on quizzes, tests, projects, and during class; but does not measure his/her personal growth in faith. There is a difference in knowing about God (which can be measured) and knowing God (which cannot be measured). Students can expect weekly homework assignments, which will include Journal Reflection/Writing as well as Second-Step and Confirmation assignments. There will also be a couple of tests and one project each trimester. Please note that **any late homework assignments** will result in a serious loss of points and perhaps some time in UGH! (Except in the case of student absences.) Chronic late or missing assignments will have a significant impact on your student's grade, and may also result in missing out on field trips or special in-school events.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Trausch

[ctrausch@stjameschoolah.org](mailto:ctrausch@stjameschoolah.org)

STUDENT SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

