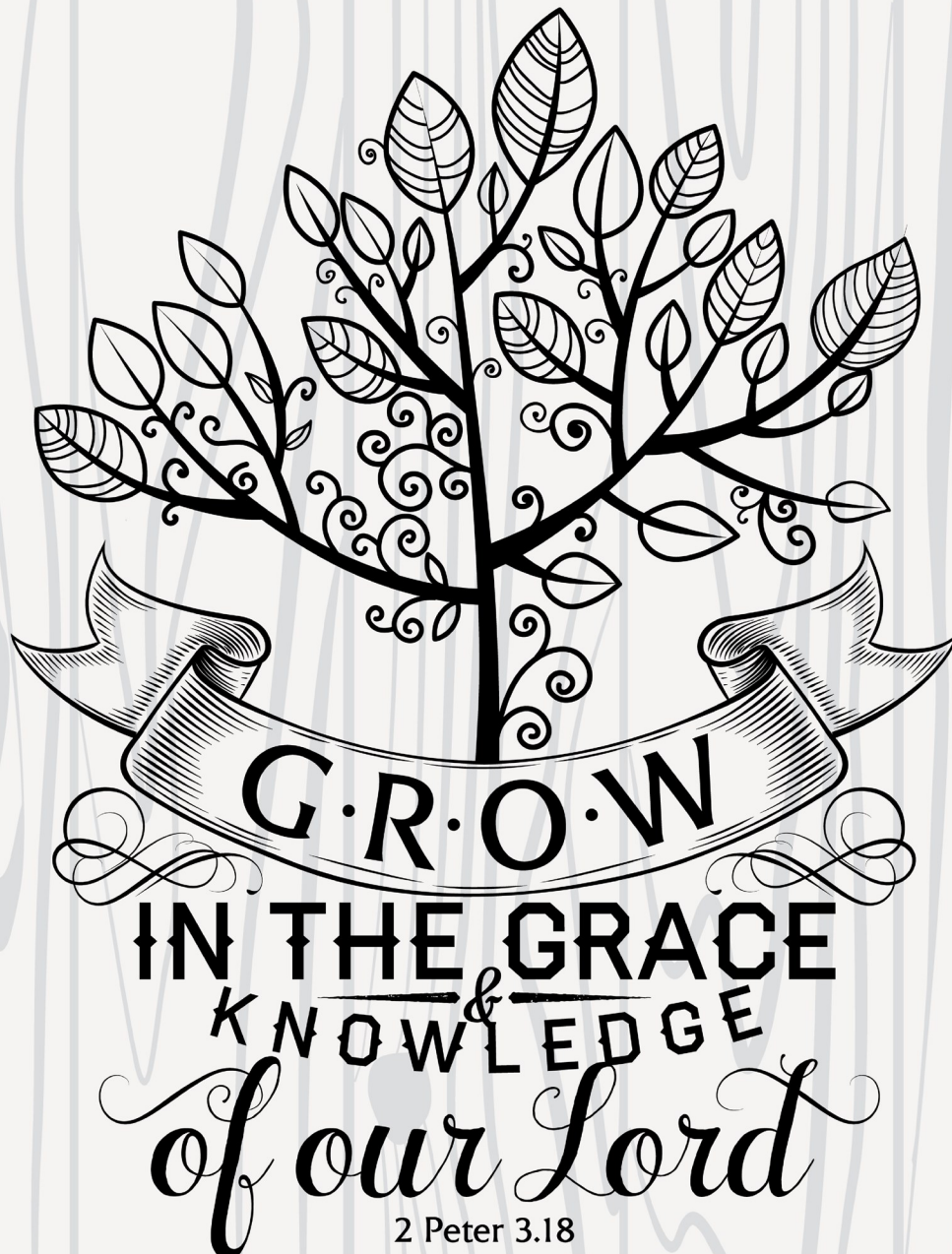


ST. MONICA CATHOLIC CHURCH

# 2017-18 FAITH FORMATION PARENT BOOKLET

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*\*(Confirmation Booklet provided separately)*

## The Office of Faith Formation

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## General Information

### Traditional Classroom Approach

St. Monica offers faith formation classes for children in grades Kinder—6th grade. Kindergarten uses Our Sunday Visitor's *Allelu* program from 11am -12 noon on Sunday mornings. Students in grades 1st-6th grade are dropped off for Faith Formation once week on Sunday afternoons from 3:15-4:45 p.m. Children are taught by well trained volunteer catechists using Loyola Press's *Finding God* Curriculum.

### Family Religious Education

Parents have the option of teaching Faith Formation at home using resources provided by the parish. Weekly assignments are provided to the parents to keep their children on task. Once a month children and parents are expected to come to the parish to "check in". During this monthly session, activities are planned for both parent and child.

Family Religious Education is open to students from Kinder—12th grade. Extra assistance and resources are provided by the parish during Sacramental years.

### Sacramental Preparation

Per the Bishops guidelines, students attend faith formation classes ***two consecutive school*** years before receiving any of the three Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. Youth maybe enrolled in traditional Faith Formation classes or Family Religious Education for two years before celebrating a Sacrament.

### RCIA Adapted for Children (Non-Baptized Youth)

Youth ages 7-13 who have not been baptized are prepared to celebrate Baptism and First Communion on the same day. Confirmation is delayed until 14.

Youth who are over the age of 14 and have not been baptized receive Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist at the Easter Vigil.

Children who are baptized Christian but are not Baptized Catholic make a Profession of Faith in the Catholic Church before they are fully initiated into the Church. This profession of faith is made at the Easter Vigil before they receive Confirmation and Eucharist.

### Preparing for First Holy Communion

Children start preparing for First Communion as early as first grade and can receive First Holy Communion in second grade. Older students are also prepared for First Communion for two consecutive school years in our traditional religious education or family religious education program.

### Preparing For Confirmation

Youth preparing for the sacrament of Confirmation may start their preparation as early as 7<sup>th</sup> grade and celebrate Confirmation in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Students who are baptized but have not made their Confirmation or First Communion are prepared to receive both Sacraments and receive them on the same day.

## **Parental Responsibility**

“The Christian family can and should be called the Domestic Church” Familiaris Consortio, St. John Paul II, 1981.

The Church recognizes the family as a domestic Church because parents are the first preachers of the faith to their children and because it is in the family where love, forgiveness, and trust should first be encountered. As such, every family should be considered a microcosm of the Church.

## **Tips to Raising Your Children Catholic at Home:**

1. Have a good marriage – love your spouse
2. Pray together every day
3. Prioritize your Time together – make your kids a priority
4. Participate in the Sacraments faithfully, without exception. Attend Mass every Sunday as a family
5. Eat together as much as possible
6. Discipline your kids
7. Protect your kids from the culture, but don't isolate them from it
8. Know your faith
9. Teach your kids your faith
10. Live your faith

## **Ten Ways to Make Sure Your Kids Leave the Church:**

1. Never pray, especially together
2. Keep a Bible in the house and never read it
3. Don't keep the Sabbath holy
4. Curse, yell and treat other people badly
5. Don't tell your kids you love them or show affection
6. Don't discuss religion in your home
7. Don't know and understand your faith
8. Don't explain why they shouldn't have sex before marriage, do drugs, etc.
9. Never say you are sorry
10. Never go to confession

# **Class Schedule**

## **1st year and Continuing Education**

### **Kinder - 6th Grade**

**First day: September 10, 2017**

**Last day: May 6, 2018**

#### **Allelu! Kindergarten**

Classes will be held from 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. in the Family Center.

#### **Traditional RE Classes 1st - 6th Grade**

Classes are on Sunday from 3:15-4:45 p.m.

Children are dropped off in the Cafeteria where they will meet with their catechists.

#### **No Class on the Following Dates**

September 24th	<b>No class for Kinder - 6th grade only</b>
November 26	Thanksgiving
December 17, 24, 31	Christmas Break
January 14	Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday
February 4	No Class
March 11	Spring Break
April 1st	Easter

**\*Students in their 2nd year of First Holy Communion Preparation in 2nd - 6th grades will follow the above No Class Date schedule\***

## **RCIA Adapted for Children and Teens -2nd year of Preparation**

Students in 2nd - 12th grade will have RCIA classes on Sundays from 12:00—1:45 p.m. in the Family Center

Room 212: 2 & 3rd grade

Room 214: 4 & 5th grade

Room 217: 6 & 7th grade

Room 220(Youth Room): 8th - 12th grade RCIA

### **Important Dates for RCIA**

September 10, 2017

First day of class

October 7, 2017 at 10 a.m.

Church Tour for 2nd—4th grade

October 24, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

Church Tour for 5th—7th grade

November 12, 2017 at 9:30 a.m.

Rite of Acceptance

**November 26**

**Thanksgiving - No Class**

**December 17, 24, 31**

**Christmas Break - No Class**

**January 14**

**MLK - No Class**

**Date to be determined**

**Rite of Election**

**March 11**

**Spring Break - No Class**

March 4, 11, and 18 at 9:30 a.m.

First, Second and Third Scrutiny

March 19, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

Rehearsal for 8th—12th Grade

March 31, 2018 at 8:00 p.m.

8th -12th Grade Initiation into the Church

**April 1st**

**Easter - No Class**

April 12, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

Rehearsal for 2nd- 7th Grade:

April 14, 2018 at 10 a.m.

2nd—7th grade Initiation into the Church

May 1, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.  
Easter Vigil)

Confessions for Neophytes (Those that were baptized during

***Last Day of Class: April 15, 2018***

# **RCIA Adapted for Children and Teens**

## **Information**

### **What is RCIA Adapted for Children and Teenagers?**

RCIA stands for Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults. In this class, we are adapting the RCIA process for children and teenagers. The goal of RCIA Adapted is to prepare youth for full Christian initiation into the Catholic Church. This process culminates with the reception of the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist) at the Easter Vigil. If a child is not yet 14, Confirmation is delayed until they are fourteen.

### **Who can serve as a Godparent?**

Children and Youth who have not been baptized are required to select at least one Godparent. Two Godparents are permitted. If two, they should be male and female. The role of a Godparent is to help the parents raise the youth in the Catholic faith. For this reason, the person selected should be an active and practicing Catholic. The person should be fully initiated (having received Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist), be at least 16 years of age, they must be someone other than the youth's parents, and, if married, married in the Catholic Church.

### **What Do Godparents Need to Bring or Do?**

Godparents are expected to take a Baptism preparation class before Easter. Classes are offered at the beginning of each month at St. Monica from 10—12 p.m. in English and from 1:00—4:00 p.m. in Spanish, please call the office to register for the class at 214-358-1453. If Godparents do not live in Dallas, they can attend a Baptism class at their own parish. Godparents should submit a Sponsor Covenant form which can be downloaded from our website and turned into Church office. If Godparents are in town, it is expected for them to attend the Rites, Scrutinies, Rehearsal and Easter Vigil.

### **Parental Responsibility**

Parents are the primary educators of their children's faith formation. To assist parents in this endeavor, parents are required to sign up for RCIA if their child is in their second year of Sacramental preparation.

RCIA in English is on Monday 7:00pm - 9:00pm and starts September 11th. RCIA classes in Spanish are on Sundays from 12:00 - 1:45 and begin September 10th. After RCIA in Spanish, parents and children attend 2 p.m. Mass together.

All parents must register for these classes. Parents must register online for RCIA in English and in person in our Church office for classes in Spanish.

# First Communion Special Event Calendar

Date	Time	Event	Location
10/7/2017	10:00 a.m.	Church Tour (2nd –4th)	Church
10/24/2017	6:30 p.m.	Church Tour (5th –7th)	Church
02/24/2018	9:30 a.m.	First Confessions	Church
04/21/2018	9:00 –12:00	FHC Workshop(2nd - 7th)	Cafeteria & Gym
04/24/2018	4:00 - 8:00	First Communion Pictures	Church
04/25/2018	4:00 - 8:00	First Communion Pictures	Church
05/02/2018	6:30 p.m.	Rehearsal (10 a.m. Mass)	Classrooms & Church
05/3/2018	6:30 p.m.	Rehearsal (2 p.m. Mass)	Classrooms & Church
05/5/2018	10 a.m.	First Communions	Church
05/5/2018	2 p.m.	First Communions	Church

**\*Please see page 5 for the 2nd - 6th Grade Class Schedule\***

**\*Please see page 10 for the 7th Grade Class Schedule\***

This First Holy Communion Special Event Calendar is for students in our traditional and family religious education program whose children are in their second year of sacramental preparation.

## First Holy Communion Information

### First Holy Communion Attire

#### GIRLS

Girls are to wear a white modest dress; sandals or dressy shoes; a veil but the veil is optional. Girls should not wear gloves.

A few places where dresses can be purchased at are Burlington Coat Factory, JC Penny or Dillard's, Sacred Heart Catholic store in Richardson.

#### BOYS

Boys are to wear a white, navy or black suit or sport coat and tie. They should wear a long sleeve white shirt and dressy shoes. No tennis shoes.

### Religious articles

It is customary for children to receive religious articles or presents for their First Holy Communion. These articles may include rosary, bible, prayer booklets, scapulars. They will be blessed by our Pastor at the reception. Sacred Heart Store on Coit and Campbell Road in north Dallas is a store where these articles can be purchased.

### First Holy Communion Mass

Students should report to their classroom at 9 a.m. or at 1 p.m. From there children will have their class picture taken. First Holy Communion Mass is at 10 a.m. in the Church.

### Reception

A reception with cake and punch is held in the small gym after Mass. All are invited to the reception.

# Family Religious Education Schedule

Date	Time	Event	Location
9/16/2017	9:30—11:00 a.m.	Family RE	Family Center
10/14/2017	9:30– 11:00 a.m.	Family RE	Family Center
11/18/2017	9:30– 11:00 a.m.	Family RE	Family Center
12/9/2017	9:30– 11:00 a.m.	Family RE	Family Center
1/20/2018	9:30– 11:00 a.m.	Family RE	Family Center
2/17/2018	9:30-11:00 a.m.	Family RE	Family Center
3/17/2018	9:30-11:00 a.m.	Family RE	Family Center
4/21/2018	9:30-11:00 a.m.	Family RE	Family Center
5/12/2018	9:30-11:00 a.m.	Family RE	Family Center

## Format for Monthly Sessions

Families will gather in Room 109 at 9:30 a.m. and from there students will be divided by age and will be taken to their classroom to for a quick assessment and group activity with other peers. Parents will remain in room 109. Parents will listen to an edifying speaker that helps support their role as primary catechists in the home. Topics will revolve around the liturgical year. Before the speaker begins, parents will touch base on where their children are at in accomplishing their work at home.

### Attendance Policy

Families must attend monthly sessions. Families are allowed to miss one session throughout the year, but after missing one session will be dropped. It is important to come to the monthly sessions to make sure students are on track in their faith formation.

The following are the room assignments where children will gather to work on an activity with their peers.

### Classroom Assignments

Room 127: Grades 1 & 2	Room 212: Grades 5 & 6	Room 220: High School
Room 211: Grades 3 & 4	Room 214: Grades 7 & 8	Room 114: Nursery

### First Communion & Reconciliation Preparation

Families in our family re program who are preparing their children for First Holy Communion at home will receive extra text books and resources to help prepare their children for these two Sacraments. Families are also required to attend the special events listed in the First Holy Communion Special Event Calendar in the parent booklet.

## 7th & 8th Grade First Year Schedule

Date	Time	Event	Location
August 19	9 to 2:00 p.m.	Refresh	Family Center
August 20	3:00—4:45 pm	Shift Preparation	Gym
August 25-27		Shift Conference	Van, Texas
<i>September 3</i>		<i>Labor Day—No L1ft</i>	
<b>September 10</b>	<b>6:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Capital of Kings Concert</b>	<b>Gym</b>
September 17	3:00 p.m.	Class	109
<b>September 24</b>	<b>6:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Walk Through the Mass</b>	<b>Church</b>
October 1	3:00 p.m.	Class	109
October 8	3:00 p.m.	Class	109
October 15	3:00 p.m.	Class	109
<b>October 22</b>	<b>6:00 p.m.</b>	<b>XLT—Prodigal Son</b>	<b>Church</b>
October 29	3:00 p.m.	Halloween	109
November 5	3:00 p.m.	Class	109
November 12	3:00 p.m.	Class	109
November 19	3:00 p.m.	Class	109
<i>November 26</i>		<i>Thanksgiving - No L1ft</i>	
December 3	3:00 p.m.	Class	109
December 10	3:00 p.m.	Class	109
<i>December 17, 24, 31</i>		<i>Christmas Break</i>	
January 7	3:00 p.m.	Social Spring Kick Off	109
<i>January 14</i>		<i>MLK Off - No L1ft</i>	
January 21	3:00 p.m.	Class	109
January 28	3:00 p.m.	Class	109
<i>February 4</i>		<i>No L1ft</i>	
February 11	3:00 p.m.	Class	109
February 18	3:00 p.m.	Class	109
February 25	3:00 p.m.	Class	109
March 4	3:00 p.m.	Class	109
<i>March 11</i>		<i>Spring Break - No L1ft</i>	
March 18	3:00 pm	Class	109
<b>March 25</b>	<b>6:00 p.m.</b>	<b>XLT</b>	<b>Church</b>
<i>April 1</i>		<i>Easter - No L1ft</i>	
April 8	3:00 p.m.	Class	109
April 15	3:00 p.m.	Class	109
April 22	3:00 p.m.	Class	109
April 29	3:00 p.m.	Class	109
May 6	3:00 p.m.	Class	109

**\*On four occasions students must come at 6:00 p.m. and not at 3 p.m.**

**These events are highlighted.**

# High School First Year Schedule

Date	Time	Event	Location
August 19	9 to 2:00 p.m.	Refresh	Family Center
August 20	6:00— 8:00 pm	Shift Preparation	Gym
August 25-27		Shift Conference	Van, Texas
<b>September 3</b>		<b>Labor Day - No L1ft</b>	
September 10	6:00-8 p.m.	Capital of Kings Concert	Gym
September 17	6:00 p.m.	Class	109
September 24	6:00 p.m.	Walk Through the Mass	Church
October 1	6:00 p.m.	Class	109
October 8	6:00 p.m.	Class	109
October 15	6:00 p.m.	Class	109
October 22	6:00 p.m.	XLT—Prodigal Son	Church
October 29	6:00 p.m.	Halloween	109
November 5	6:00 p.m.	Class	109
November 12	6:00 p.m.	Class	109
November 19	6:00 p.m.	Class	109
<b>November 26</b>		<b>Thanksgiving - No L1ft</b>	
December 3	6:00 p.m.	Class	109
December 10	6:00 p.m.	Class	109
<b>December 17, 24, 31</b>		<b>Christmas Break - No L1ft</b>	
January 7	6:00 p.m.	Social Spring Kick Off	109
<b>January 14</b>		<b>MLK - No L1ft</b>	
January 21	6:00 p.m.	Class	109
January 28	6:00 p.m.	Class	109
<b>February 4</b>		<b>No LIFT</b>	
February 11	6:00 p.m.	Class	109
February 18	6:00 p.m.	Class	109
February 25	6:00 p.m.	Class	109
March 4	3:00 p.m.	Class	109
<b>March 11</b>		<b>Spring Break - No L1ft</b>	
March 18	6:00 pm	Class	109
March 25	6:00 p.m.	XLT	Church
<b>April 1</b>		<b>Easter—No l1ft</b>	
April 8	6:00 p.m.	Class	109
April 15	6:00 p.m.	Class	109
April 22	6:00 p.m.	Class	109
April 29	6:00 p.m.	Class	109
May 6	6:00 p.m.	Class	109

# Refresh

Refresh is a parish catechetical initiative for parents and students in grades 7-12th. Our goal at Refresh is to help pre evangelize our families before the school year begins.

Refresh this year will be for all **FIRST YEAR** students who are in grade 7 –12 on Saturday, August 19th, from 9 to 2 p.m.

There is no cost for Refresh.

Parents who speak English will be meeting in Family Center Room 217.

Parents who speak Spanish will be meeting in the Cafeteria.

All youth will be in the Family Center lower and upper lounge.

Lunch will be provided for all Refresh families.

# Shift Conference

Seventh –Twelfth grade students all attend a Conference before the school year begins to help kick off their Faith Formation at St. Monica. It is required for all students to attend. Please read the parent letter and frequently asked questions for more information.

# Fees

A registration fee is requested at the time of registration to help pay for costs throughout the year. All students in grades 7-11 who are in their first year of sacramental preparation pay \$175. This incorporates the cost of the Conference. The fee for students in grades 8-12th grade who are in their second year of sacramental preparation for Confirmation is \$200. The extra 25 dollars is for a parent/candidate retreat in February. Families may be set up on a payment plan to pay for the cost of the year.

# L1ft Youth Ministry

L1ft is the youth ministry program for students in grades 7—12. To learn more about L1ft, please visit <http://www.l1ftministry.org/>.

# Shift Parent Letter

Dear Parents,

St. Monica is pleased to announce that the Confirmation retreat is now St. Monica's Shift Conference. It will take place August 25-27, 2017 at Sky Ranch in Van, Texas. Check-in is at St. Monica on Friday at 4:30pm (Middle School) and 5:00 p.m. (High School). Students return Sunday at 1:00 pm. The theme of our Conference this year is Genesis. The weekend will focus on new beginnings in our relationship with God and living the Gospel.

# Shift Parent Letter Cont.

Approximately 370 students will be attending the Conference between St. Monica School's 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and St. Monica's Faith Formation students who are preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation. There will also be opportunities for everyone to gather collectively for Mass, go to Confession, and listen to keynote speakers. Our main keynote speakers this year are Fr. Leo Patalinghug; Diocese of Dallas Youth, Young Adult, and Campus Ministries Director, Jason Deuterman; St. Monica's Youth and Young Adult Director, Jason Trujillo; Diocese of Dallas Director of Vocations, Fr. Edwin Leonard; St. Thomas Aquinas Associate Director of Youth Ministry, Meagan Barras, among others.

We will be taking one Safe Environment cleared adult for every seven students to the Conference. This includes small group leaders, staff members who are going on the Conference, and a medical doctor. The main responsibility of a small group leader is to lead group discussion, maintain their group together throughout the Conference and supervise students in the evening. Small group leaders will be sleeping in the same cabins as their small group. More than one small group is assigned to a cabin, and cabins are also gender specific. For the sake of bonding, sharing and fellowship, small groups are gender and grade specific. Parents are welcome to participate as small group leaders, but will not be assigned to their child's small group. Parents who volunteer must also attend a mandatory training on August 13<sup>th</sup> and must have their badge renewed by this date. If you are a parent who would like to serve as a small group leader, you may register on the parish website under Youth and Young Adult Ministry which will take you to the L1ft Youth Ministry website or go directly to [www.L1ftministry.org/volunteer](http://www.L1ftministry.org/volunteer)

Students may bring a cell phone for the bus, but ALL phones will be given to the small group leader at the start of the conference. In addition to the programming of the conference, students will have free time, where they will have the opportunity to participate in various outdoor water and ropes course activities all under the supervision of certified and paid staff from Sky Ranch.

A fee of \$175, which incorporates the cost of the retreat and other expenses will be collected at the time of registration. Parents will register for the retreat, fill out a permission form from Sky Ranch and a diocesan permission form at the time of registration. If your child is in their *second year* of Sacramental preparation, an additional \$25 dollars will be collected to pay for the Confirmation day retreat in February.

We are confident that our youth will have an amazing spiritual and bonding experience at St. Monica's Shift Conference. We look forward to ministering to them and bringing them closer to Christ this weekend as they prepare for a life long journey with Christ and His Church through the Sacrament of Confirmation.

In Christ,

Mariangela Byrne, Director of Faith Formation

Jason Trujillo Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry

Maria Jones, Coordinator of Youth Evangelization

# ***Frequently Asked Questions about the Shift Conference***

## **Where and how far is Sky Ranch from St. Monica?**

Sky Ranch is located in Van, Texas, an hour and fifty minutes southeast of Dallas near Tyler, TX.

## **How much is the Conference and how will I pay?**

The cost of the Conference is 175. Families will be billed at the time of registration

## **How do and when do I register?**

Shift Conference registration is done at the time of confirmation registration in the month of June.

## **Is it a requirement for a child to attend a Confirmation retreat? What happens if my child cannot make it?**

All youth in the diocese of Dallas are required to attend a Confirmation retreat. If a child is not able to make it to their own parish retreat, they must find a retreat at another parish. Families are responsible for looking for another retreat and making sure that Mariangela Byrne gets a letter stating their son or daughter attended a Confirmation retreat elsewhere.

## **How come some parish Confirmation Retreats are shorter or longer than St. Monica's retreat?**

Every Confirmation program offers a retreat but each parish sets their own requirements with regards to length and format. Some parishes have day retreats, others have overnight retreats. This is left up to the discretion of the pastor and his youth ministry team. At St. Monica we want to provide the best spiritual experience for the students.

## **What items should my child pack on the Conference?**

Youth should bring a sleeping bag or sheets, pillow, toiletries, towel, casual clothing, insect repellent, sunblock, swimsuit, tennis shoes, short/jeans. Youth should also pack a Bible and a rosary.

## **How many meals will be provided? Can my child take snacks?**

Dinner will not be provided on Friday evening. All students must come already having had dinner. Students may pack a sandwich and snacks to eat on the bus on Friday evening. Snacks and water will be available on the bus. All three meals will be provided for on Saturday and breakfast will be provided on Sunday, but Sky Ranch will not serve lunch on Sunday. Students will arrive at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday.

## **My child takes medications. How will they be administered?**

A slip of paper will be go home with your student. We ask that you please fill out medicine slip with name of medicine, dosage, and how often youth is to take medicine. Parents must sign slip. A doctor will be in charge of making sure medicines are given when they are supposed to be administered.

## **Will my child be placed in a small group with students from another school?**

No, students from St. Monica School will not be placed in a small group with students from another school.

## **How can I contact Sky Ranch in case of an emergency?**

Please call: 903.266.3300

# ***Frequently Asked Questions about the Shift Conference Continued***

**How well are students being supervised at night to ensure students do not sneak out of their cabin?**

Each cabin has a loud door alarm that goes off when a person exits the cabin. Also, different core team members will be patrolling the cabins at night to ensure students do not roam. Cell phones will be confiscated at the beginning of the Conference to avoid having students plan an outing during the night.

**I am concerned about the age difference between high school and middle school students. How is this dynamic being addressed?**

To comply with safe environment requirements, we will have one adult for every seven students or fifty one safe environment cleared adults. Students will always be supervised by these adults. Small group leaders have been instructed to remain with their small groups at all times. High school and middle school students will be together for Mass, adoration, and during the main sessions but will be separated by age for breakout sessions. High school and middle school students attended last year's conference and no issues were reported.

**Will my child be sleeping in the same cabin as students from another school?**

Small groups will sleep in the same cabin together. Some cabins are larger than others and may have more than one small group. Older high school student small groups, however, will not be sleeping in the same cabin with a cabin assigned to 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders.

**Will my child have access to their cell phone?**

One purpose of the retreat is to disengage from the normal activities and this involves disengaging from cell phone usage. Student cell phones will be collected when we arrive at Sky Ranch and will be returned on Sunday. In case of an emergency, parents may contact Sky Ranch directly.

Adults will be monitoring screen time when students are on the bus to make sure inappropriate material is not being watched. Should an issue arise, phones may be confiscated on the bus.

**I would like to go on the Conference but do not want to serve as a small group leader. What else may I do?**

At this time, we are only looking for small group leaders. Adults interested in volunteers must apply on the L1ft website. All small group leaders must be fully initiated, practicing Catholics, in order to lead a small group.

**Must I attend the training on August 13th to serve as small group leader?**

Yes, it is required to attend the training in August to know what to do on the Conference. A safe environment renewal class will be offered from 1- 2 p.m. and training for the Conference will be from 2- 5 p.m.

**If I am small group leader can I drive my own child to the Conference?**

No, all students and volunteers must ride on the bus.

## ***Frequently Asked Questions about the Shift Conference Continued***

### **Is there an itinerary I can preview? What are the talks focused on?**

An itinerary will be provided on our L1ft's website which can be found under Youth and Young Adult Ministry on St. Monica's church website [www.stmonicachurch.org](http://www.stmonicachurch.org) or at [www.l1ftministry.com/retreats](http://www.l1ftministry.com/retreats)

### **Does my child need to bring money with them to the Conference?**

Sky Ranch has a convenience store where students may purchase snacks and souvenirs. We recommend students not bring more than 30 dollars.

### **What time and where do students need to be dropped off on Friday?**

Students must be dropped off at 4:30 p.m. if they are in middle school and at 5:00 p.m. if they are in High School. Drop off is by the football field from there students will be walking over to the Cafeteria where the buses will be waiting for them to be picked up and taken to Sky Ranch.

### **What if my child has food allergies? Will Sky Ranch provide special meals for them?**

Yes, Sky Ranch provides meals to students with food allergies.

## **Parent Faith Formation**

Parents who have children in their second year of Sacramental preparation are required to attend some parent faith formation opportunities. Parents have the option of attending at least 5 faith formation opportunities throughout the year (schedule will be released later) **OR** attend a parent workshop on August 19th from 9 to 2 p.m. with Deacon Ralph Poyo from New Evangelization Ministries here at St. Monica in the Family Center. Parents who attend the workshop do not have to come to faith formation opportunities throughout the year unless they desire to do so.

## **Parent-Teacher Meetings**

Students in grades 1 –6th will have parent teacher meetings throughout the year. All parents are required to attend these parent meetings throughout the year. If students have siblings, parents attend one parent meeting, and then move to their siblings class for a second parent meeting.

For instance, you may attend from 3:15 to 3:35 and then go to the next child's class from 4:00—4:25.

The parent teacher meeting dates are: October 1st, January 21, and March 25.

The purpose of these meetings is to meet the teacher, learn how your child is doing in class, and receive communication from the teacher.

# Communication from the Parish

Parents will be receiving reminders about parent meetings, rehearsals, and other important dates via text.

In case of inclement weathers days, families will be notified via text if class is canceled.

In order to receive text messages, you will need to opt in. To opt in, please text the following number: **84576**.

**Text the word that applies to your child:**

<b>Kinder</b>	students in Kinder
<b>Sped</b>	students in the special education class
<b>Famre</b>	students in the Family Religious Education Program
<b>Monica1-6</b>	students in 1st year prep in grades 1-6
<b>FHC2-6</b>	students in First Holy Communion in grades 2- 6
<b>RCIC2-7</b>	students in Baptism & FHC in grades 2– 7
<b>Monica7-8</b>	students in 1st year prep in grades 7 - 8
<b>FHC7</b>	students in First Holy Communion in grade 7
<b>Monica9-11</b>	students in 1st year prep in grades 9-11
<b>RCIC8-12</b>	students in Baptism, FHC y confirmation in grades 8-12
<b>Conf-FHC8</b>	students in confirmation & FHC in 8th Grade
<b>Conf8</b>	students in confirmation in 8th Grade
<b>HSConf-FHC</b>	students in confirmation & FHC in grades 9 - 12
<b>HSConf</b>	students in confirmation in grades 9 - 12

\*If there are any changes with your cell phone provider or phone number please let the office know immediately otherwise you risk missing important information for your child

## Attendance Policy

### Grades 1st - 6th

Students who are in grades 1-6th grade for traditional RE must make up their absence if they miss class on Sunday. Parent must approach the teacher and request for assignment. Once work is made up, the absence is excused.

### Grades 7th - 12th

Students in grades 7th-12th are only allowed 5 absences between September through May however if a student has 3 absences between September through December they will be dropped before the beginning of the 2nd semester.

# Carpool Information on Sundays

## 1st - 8th Grade (3:15 pm - 4:45 pm) - Drop off Procedure

Students in grades 1—6 will be dropped off at Cafeteria.  
Students in grades 7—8 will be dropped off at the family center.  
Students should be dropped off at 3 p.m.

## 1st—8th Grade (4:45 p.m. ) - Pick up Procedure

A carpool procedure is in place for pick up. Please see attached carpool map for instructions for carpool.  
1st—5th grade students will wait outside by the west side of the Cafeteria.  
6th—8th grade students will wait outside by the playground behind the Cafeteria.

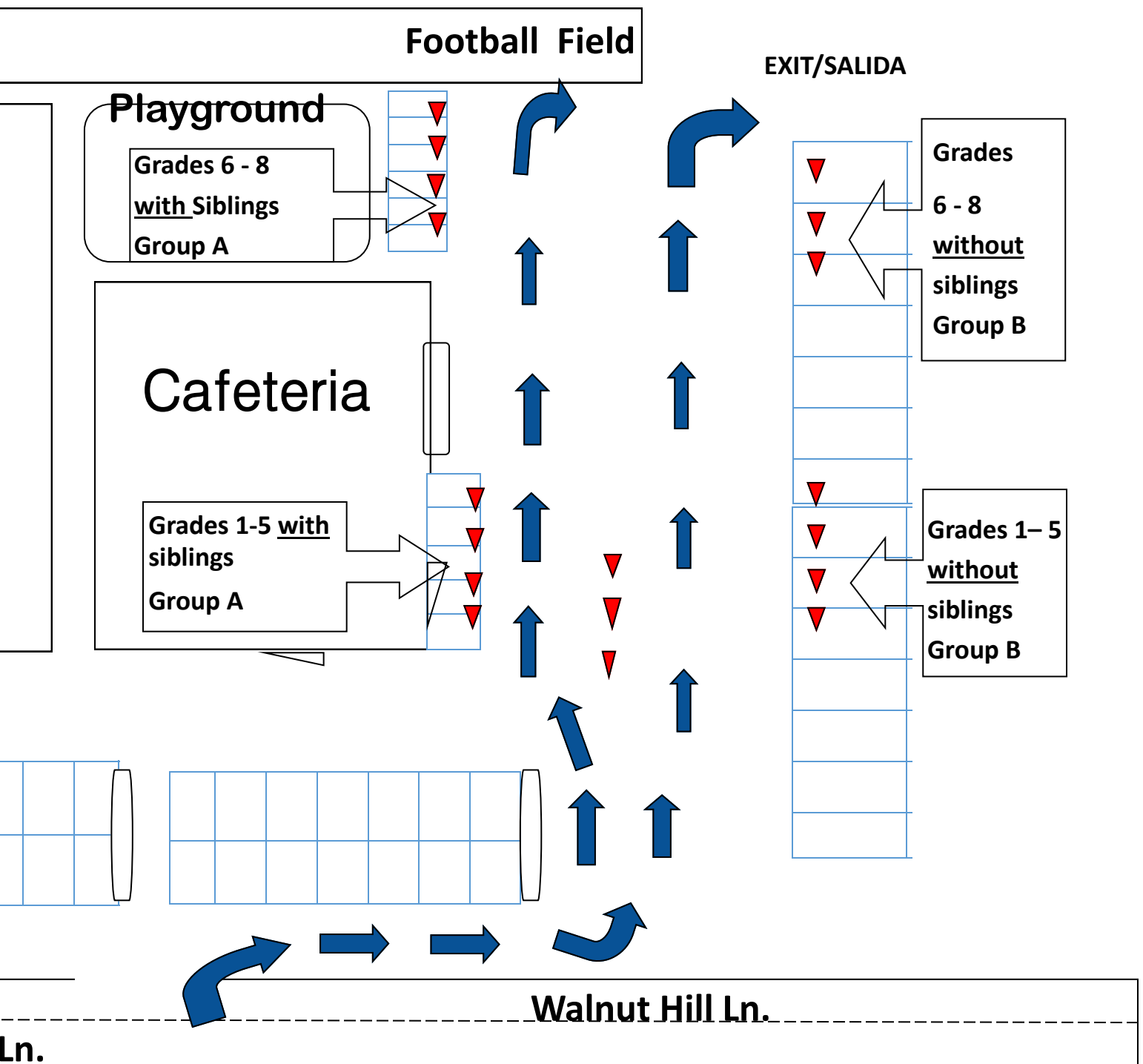
There are two lanes for pickup. One lane (lane A) is for siblings and the other lane, (lane B), is for students who do not have siblings in the program.

## High School (6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.)

High School students will be dropped and picked up by the Family Center.

School


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Walnut Hill



CAR POOL ROUTE FOR **SUNDAYS**



ST. MONICA

CATHOLIC CHURCH