

Welcome

The young people of our parish who are beginning to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation will be experiencing a unique and exciting approach to sacramental preparation. The focus of the preparation process will be on the rite itself, which will help the candidates more fully understand the sacrament they are preparing to celebrate.

They will begin by exploring what it means to gather as a community to celebrate the liturgy. When friends and family gather with them on the day of their Confirmation, they will understand more deeply the proud significance of their belonging to the assembly of believers who form the Body of Christ in this time and place. They gather with us to worship as the People of God, a "holy nation" with whom God has made a covenant in the blood of Jesus.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Saint Columba Church
18 Richards Avenue
Paxton, Massachusetts 01612
Rectory telephone: (508) 755-0408
Fax: (508) 767-0751
Religious Education Office: (508) 755-0601

Come Holy Spirit,
fill the hearts
of your faithful.
And kindle in them
the fire of your love.
Send forth your spirit
and they shall be created.
And you will renew
the face of the earth

Saint Columba Church Confirmation Schedule "2011"



*Filled with the Holy Spirit,
They proclaimed the Lord Jesus*

*Pastor: Reverend David E. Doiron
Religious Education Coordinator:
Theresa A. Nummelin*



Confirmation Schedule

September 11

Orientation Meeting \ Candidates & Parents
Time: 10:50 a.m. ~ 11:30 a.m.
Location: Church Hall

October 2

Rite of Enrollment Mass with
Candidates, Parents and Sponsors.
Time: 10:00 a.m. Mass

October 2

Session I
Time: 11:00 a.m. ~ 12:30 p.m.
Church Hall

October 23

Session II
Time: 11:00 a.m. ~ 12:30 p.m.
Location: Church Hall

October 30

Session III
Time: 11:00 a.m. ~ 12:30 p.m.
Location: Church Hall

November 6

Session IV
Time: 11:00 a.m. ~ 12:30 p.m.
Location: Church Hall

November 13

Retreat
Time: 11:00 a.m. ~ 6:30 p.m.
Location
St. Joseph Church
10 H. Putnam Ext.
Charlton City 01508

Community Service

November 12

Catholic Charities Thanksgiving Food Drive
Time: 10:00 a.m. ~ 12:00 p.m.
Location: St. Columba \ Parking Lot

November 16

Assemble Thanksgiving Baskets
For Families in Need!
Time: 6:00 p.m. ~ 8:00 p.m.
Location:
Catholic Charities
10 Hammond St.
Worcester, Ma. 01610

December 2 Rehearsal

Location: **St. Columba**
Candidates & Sponsors
Time: 6:30 p.m. ~ 7:30 p.m.
Appetizer Party: 7:30 p.m. ~ 8:00 p.m.
Robes will be distributed during the
Party!

December 4

Confirmation

Time: Have Not Received Notification
Location:
St. Paul's Cathedral
15 Chatham St.
Worcester, Ma. 01609

Interviews will be scheduled with the Pastor during
the preparation for Confirmation

Welcome

Welcome to St. Columba's Religious Education program. Our goal is to provide a welcoming environment that will challenge students to learn experience and develop a deeper relationship with God and grow as members of the Christian community. Our Religious Education Program includes faith instruction, prayer, sacramental preparation and community service. This brochure reviews our policies and provides you with the class schedules for this year's program.

Role of the Parents: Parents are the primary religious educators of their children. {CCC #1653} St. Columba's Religious Education program aims to work in partnership **with** parents to assist them in living out their vocation as educators of their children.

Celebrating the Sacraments:

All Christian education finds its source within the sacramental life of the Church. Therefore, it is of the utmost importance that children are given the opportunity for frequent participation in the Sacrament of Reconciliation and weekly attendance at Holy Mass. Knowledge of our faith that is not upheld by the practice of the sacramental life is **empty** knowledge!

Reconciliation:

Reconciliation precedes First Eucharist and is celebrated at St. Columba in mid November. Parents are required to attend one parent meeting with the Pastoral staff before reception of the sacrament. The meeting is designed to assist parents in the preparation of their child for the reception of the sacrament.

First Holy Communion:

Second Grade is the usual age to receive First Holy Communion at St. Columba. Preparation prior to First Communion includes: one parent meeting; special liturgies; and a retreat day for both parent and child.

Confirmation: Confirmation at

St. Columba is celebrated in the 11th Grade. Students are required to complete Grades 9 & 10 and demonstrate a basic knowledge of the material covered in those grades.

Registration: Registration in the parish is a **Pre-requisite** to entering our Religious Education Program. Registering for Religious Education does **not** register you into the parish. To register into the parish, please call the rectory during office hours.

Registration Fee:

Registration for Religious Education classes is held at St. Columba on the first two Sunday's in June. The registration fee is \$50.00 per student not to exceed \$100.00 per family. Students that are registered late will be assessed an additional 10.00 fee.

School Calendar & Cancellation

As a rule, we follow the calendar year of the Wachusett Regional School System. If there is no school, there will be no classes. If school is canceled or released early due to inclement weather there will be no afternoon or evening classes.

Absences: If your child is sick and will not be attending class, please call the Religious Education Office (508)-755-0601 that day. Excessive absences (3 or more) may result in additional testing before your student is promoted to the next grade. For students in sacramental years, sacraments may be postponed to the following year.

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# Saint Columba Church Middle School & High School Religious Education Schedule 2011 ~ 2012



*Pastor: Reverend David E. Doiron*  
*Religious Education Coordinator:*  
*Theresa A. Nummelin*

## Grade 7

*Monday evenings from 7:00 ~ 8:00 p.m.*

September: 26

October: 3, 17, 24

November: 7, 14, 21, 28

December: 5, 12, 19

January: 23, 30

February: 6, 13, 27

March: 5, 19, 26

April: 9, 23, 30

May: 7

## Grade 7 Class Mass

*December 11, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.*

## Grade 8

*Tuesday evenings from 7:00 ~ 8:00 p.m.*

September: 27

October: 4, 11, 18, 25

November: 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

December: 6, 13, 20

January: 17, 24, 31

February: 7, 14, 28

March: 6, 13, 20, 27

April: 10, 24

May: 1, 8

## Grade 8 Class Mass

*November 1, 2011 at 7:00p.m.*

We invite all families to join us for the celebration of the Youth Masses.



## Youth Series ~ Youth Mass

In collaboration with the youth ministry team at Anna Maria College, St. Columba will offer a Youth Series, on the Basic Principles of the Church's Teachings on Social Justice.

The program activities will include music, challenging activities, meaningful prayer experiences and group discussions.

Students registered in the high school program are required to attend the Youth Series and participate in class community service projects as part of their faith formation. The high school community service calendar will be distributed at the first youth meeting on October 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The Youth Series meetings will be held at St. Columba Church and at Anna Maria College on the following dates:

### October 2, 2011

**3:15 p.m.** ~ 4:45 p.m. {Welcome & Activity}

4:45 p.m. ~ 5:00 p.m. {Break}

*Youth Mass* at 5:00 p.m.

**Location: St. Columba**

*Parent pick up time: 5:45 p.m.*

## November 20, 2011

**4:00 p.m.** ~ 5:15 p.m. {Group Activity}

5:15 p.m. ~ 5:45 p.m. {Dinner}

5:45 p.m. ~ 6:45 p.m. {Group Activity}

*Youth Mass: 7:00 p.m.*

**Location: Anna Maria College**

*Parent pick up time: 7:45 p.m.*

## February 12, 2012

**4:00 p.m.** ~ 5:15 p.m. {Group Activity}

5:15 p.m. ~ 5:45 p.m. {Dinner}

5:45 p.m. ~ 6:45 p.m. {Group Activity}

*Youth Mass: 7:00 p.m.*

**Location: Anna Maria College**

*Parent pick up time: 7:45 p.m.*

## May 20, 2012

**5:30 p.m.** ~ 6:15 p.m. *Youth Mass*

6:15 p.m. ~ 6:45 p.m. Pizza Party!

6:45 p.m. ~ 7:45 p.m. Last Class

**Location: St. Columba**

*Parent pick up time: 7:45 p.m.*

## Grade 9 & 10 (Class Schedule)

The High School Youth Series and Youth Mass will be held on the dates indicated in parenthesis

*Sunday evenings from 7:00 ~ 8:00p.m.*

October: (2), 16, 30

November: 6, 13, (20)

December: 4, 11, 18

January: 15, 22, 29

February: (12)

March: 4, \*18, 25

April: 22, 29

May: 6, (20)

\*Class on March 18<sup>th</sup> will start at 6:30p.m. and dismiss at 8:15 p.m. {Penance Service}