

Grade 3 & Grade 4 program - 2022-2023

The Grade 3 & Grade 4 program format is a large IN PERSON session with smaller breakout groups within them. As Our Sunday Visitor – Alive in Christ workbook is a spiral curriculum, it enables us to combine the grades for a good sense of community and peer learning, while able to separate the children in small groups based on their grades as to work in their appropriate workbooks.

- The large group session begins as a large group with an opening song, prayer and a theme announced. Following that we will have breakout tables where the kids will have their own workbook and small group teaching by volunteer catechists in their respective grade and workbook. We will enhance the workbook theme with appropriate videos and interactive ways to have the children concretely learn about their faith. The lessons from the workbook will be done in class.

Some highlights over the year will include:

- Tour of the Church, introduction to the children's choir, Hummingbirds (grades 3-7) Introduction for the 4th grade to Altar Serving.
- We will also learn about community service and learn how we can help others.
- We will also have a few additional speakers of faith offered during certain months on meaningful topics for the children. We will update you on those as soon as possible.
- During the large groups we will learn about group prayer, petitions for others and scripture.

Where will the Session be held?

- Sessions take place in the Meaney Hall gym, we ask you to drop your child off at the main gym door **with their workbooks each week** and pick them up at the same door.
- There are four large group sessions to select from, please select the best session for your child to attend from September through March.

Volunteers: Saint Helen has a history of generous volunteers who help us run our religious education programs. The Grade 3 & Grade 4 program will need about 40 volunteers, please consider joining our team!

- We will provide a **Training Meeting** on September 13 at 11:00am or 7:00pm in person in the gym.
- All materials and lesson plans are provided for you via email the week before each session for you to review along with a catechist guide from Our Sunday Visitor.
- Responsibilities include teaching a small group of about 10 children within the large group session.
- The commitment is one-two times per month from September through March.
- Middle School and High School students can be runners to fulfill their service hours
- Substitutes are welcome, please consider and let us know what days and times you are available.

Volunteer Guidelines: Volunteers over 18 who work with children need to take Protecting God's Children or Keeping the Promise Alive and submit a volunteer application along with a background check per the Archdiocese of Newark. Please click on this link from our website to read more about it. <https://sainthelen.org/protecting-gods-children/> We can assist you with this process. You can check off on the registration of your child that you elect to volunteer.

Religious Education Registration: If you are not already a registered Parishioner, please go to www.sainthelen.org and click on the top word "Welcome " and follow instructions under the "I'm new" tab to register all the members of your family, not just your child.

- **The Religious Education registration link** will be emailed to you by June 11 and will be on our website and goes live on Monday, June 13 at 9:00am.
- **To select the session day and time:** click on the registration link, and it will bring you to the Religious Education registration. Please select the day and time of the large group session that you would like your child to attend the Grade 3 & Grade 4 program
- You must use your **child's full name NOT a parent name.**
- Please pick the day/time that works BEST for your child to attend **from Sept.-March.** We cannot move children into different sessions along the year.
- If the session is full, it will not allow you to select it.
- Please find the schedule below which is subject to change.
- Classes will be in concert with the directives from the Archdiocese and the State of NJ and is subject to change as we are still in a pandemic.

Volunteer Minister training meeting: **Tuesday, September 13 at 11:00am and 7pm in person in the Meaney Hall gym** - all volunteers need to attend one of the sessions.

Schedule: SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Alive in Christ Gr. 3 & Gr. 4 2022/2023	Tuesday Group A 3:45- 4:45PM	Tuesday Group B 5:30- 6:30PM	Tuesday Group C 7:00- 8:00PM	Thursday Group D 3:45- 4:45PM
Large Group Session				Sept. 29
Large Group Session	Oct. 4	Oct. 4	Oct. 4	
Large Group Session	Oct. 18	Oct. 18	Oct. 18	Oct. 20
Large Group Session	Nov. 29	Nov. 29	Nov. 29	Dec. 1
Large Group Session	Dec. 13	Dec. 13	Dec. 13	Dec. 15
Large Group Session	Jan. 10	Jan. 10	Jan. 10	Jan. 12
Large Group Session	Jan. 24	Jan. 24	Jan. 24	Jan. 26
Large Group Session	Feb. 14	Feb. 14	Feb. 14	Feb. 16
Large Group Session	Feb. 28	Feb. 28	Feb. 28	Mar. 2
Large Group Session	Mar. 21	Mar. 21	Mar. 21	Mar. 23

Special Notes:

Wed., Feb. 22 @ 3:45PM	Children's Ash Wednesday Service	
Sunday)	Sun., Apr. 2	Passion Play Masses (Palm
	Thurs., Apr. 6	Holy Thursday
Outside	Fri., Apr. 7	Good Friday - Stations of the Cross -
	Sat., Apr. 8	Holy Saturday
	Sun., Apr. 9	Easter Sunday

We are looking forward to meeting you all! Please feel free to contact me.

Nicole

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