

St. Ann Catholic Church is a wonderful parish, small in size but rich in resources, for families desiring to root their children in our Catholic faith. We have a vibrant homeschooling community of approximately 30 families. With many activities specific to homeschoolers, as well as those open to all families—such as altar server programs for both the Novus Ordo and Extraordinary Form Masses, a girls' choir, the Gaudium et Spes concert series, Mothering with Grace, Fidelis for girls and Fraternalis for boys, and a Faith Formation program on Sundays—St. Ann offers fertile ground for growing families.

To learn more about homeschool activities at our parish, please continue reading.

### **Catholic Classical Enrichment (CCE)**

Offering students in PK through 8th grade a Catholic and classical foundation of knowledge, this weekly program meets on Friday mornings at St. Ann. Sacred Music and Art accompany academic memory work. In the middle school program the focus shifts from foundational memory work to instruction in Latin, History, Writing, and Sacred Art. Registration opens in early March and fills quickly.

Please contact Kathleen Lewis ([ccejmj@gmail.com](mailto:ccejmj@gmail.com)) for more information.

### **Individual Classes**

Homeschoolers have access to classrooms in the Allen Center and may organize classes taught by volunteer parents or professionals. In past years, courses, usually held on Friday afternoons, have been offered in art, chess, knitting, pottery, science experiments, a boys' adventure club, sign language, writing, and supervised free play in the gymnasium and on the playground.

Please contact the Church Office ([stanncharlotte@charlottediocese.org](mailto:stanncharlotte@charlottediocese.org)) for more information.

### **Holy Family Playgroup**

The Holy Family Playgroup meets most Friday mornings at a local park, close to the parish, for play and fellowship. There are also activities or outings planned for one day each month in addition to Friday play. These events range from visiting a local museum together to making liturgical crafts in someone's home. The group is made up of children ranging from babies to 8 years old or so, and all ages are most welcome.

Please contact Melissa Lewis ([holyfamilyplaygroup@yahogroups.com](mailto:holyfamilyplaygroup@yahogroups.com)) to view a calendar of events or for more information.

## **Liturgical Celebrations**

The homeschooling community offers liturgical activities and celebrations throughout the year. Events we have enjoyed in the past include:

- September: Back to School Mass with the Bishop
- October: St. Francis Animal Blessing, All Saints Party
- November: Praying for souls and eating and soul cakes at the cemetery
- December: St. Nicholas party with Fr. Reid
- January: Epiphany Party
- February: Stations of the Cross during Lent, St. Valentine's Day cards (service project) for the homebound and party, Candlemas celebration
- March: St. Joseph potluck,
- April: Making Easter cards for the homeless (service project on Holy Saturday)
- May: May Crowning with Ice Cream social
- June: End-of-year Mass and Picnic

This is only a sampling of activities and families are encouraged to suggest and help plan any celebration or observation related to the liturgical calendar. Celebrations are community efforts and offer much enjoyment and fellowship for our families.

Please contact Priscilla Benson ([priscilla.l.benson@gmail.com](mailto:priscilla.l.benson@gmail.com)) for more information.

## **Fine Arts Summer Program**

The Summer Fine Arts Festival program exists to allow students to give glory to God by 1) learning to appreciate the fine arts, 2) learning to create and perform arts that express Truth, Beauty and Goodness - and to share this Catholic Culture with others, and 3) raising funds to support Sacred Art in our own diocese, while growing in friendship and virtue together.

For elementary through high school students, there are programs in choir, art, dance/athletics, poetry and the opportunity to participate in the production of a Shakespeare play. The program culminates in a Fine Arts Weekend showcasing the play, displaying the art at a silent auction, and delighting the audience with choral and dance performances. Summer 2016 will mark the fourth year of the Fine Arts Summer Program at St. Ann's.

Please contact Kelly Rosamond ([khrosamond@gmail.com](mailto:khrosamond@gmail.com)) for more information.

## **Yahoo List**

To stay abreast of all current happenings with the St. Ann homeschooling community, including field trips, girls' nights in and boys' nights in, and mothers' nights out, there is a Yahoo Group available to current homeschoolers attending St. Ann parish.

Please contact Brenda Kresak (bkresak@gmail.com) to request to join the St. Ann's homeschoolers' email list.

### **Homeschool Roster**

To be included in the Homeschool Roster (listing of families), please contact the Church Office (stanncharlotte@charlottediocese.org).

### **Virtus/Protecting God's Children**

A volunteer helps ensure that all our homeschooling parents, volunteers, and hired teachers are compliant with Virtus/Protecting God's Children and have up-to-date background checks, which are diocesan requirements to participate in any activities with children at the parish

Please contact Brenda Kresak (bkresak@gmail.com) either to make sure you are compliant with Virtus/PGC or to confirm that the volunteers for your class/event are compliant.