

SCHOOL DESCRIPTION GUIDE

SCHOOL: Wame Sault Ste. Marie Rel. Ed. & Service Program, 360 Maple, 632-3541

ENROLLMENT: Present ~ 11483 Projected ?

SCHOOL PERSONNEL: Principal (Director) - Sr. Mary Gabriel

Faculty: Religious 8½ Lay 53 Men 6 Women 47
(one religious is an O.P. - all laity are volunteers)

Secretary: 1

SCHOOL STRUCTURE: (Grades, 1 - 8; 9 - 12; special education; pre-school
30 rooms, average class size - 15.

SCHOOL FACILITIES: 2 gyms, resource center

TRANSPORTATION: Bus for almost all grade school children

CCD: Enrollment 11483 Class size 15 Catechists Rel. 9 Lay 55

LITURGY: follows development as it comes in texts

PROJECTED PROGRAMS: More music, more special education classes, more high school,
more programs with senior citizens, more adult programs

AFFILIATED SCHOOL ORGANIZATIONS: Home school parent sessions pertaining to sacrament
preparation, eight to twelve sessions for each sacrament,
explanation of programs to parents, three times yearly in all
parishes, open letter to parents describing program, parents
survey used in all parishes at the liturgy, etc.

Description of Sault Ste. Marie, Area Religious Education and Service Program - 1 -
- Continuing Christian Development -

Introduction:

Our guiding principle is: Religious education is for everyone. A truly living faith is vital, and we are striving to communicate this vitality of belief to all whatever their age or circumstance may be.

With this principle in mind, the whole program is aimed at service for the people of God in our area be they pre-schooler, young, adolescent, adult, or senior citizen. We are attempting to build up confidence and awareness of the fact that we are a redeemed people, from the beginning of life until the end.

The gospel is our norm. The gospel is not paper and ink. The gospel is flesh and blood. It is a dead word as long as it remains on the page of a book. When it forms our lives, it becomes the living word, that word then adds credibility. That living word then can speak to a people.

We are in actual fact developing a "faith community" on all levels. This will not be accomplished in one year, or, in one decade, but, in the whole of a life time. We share a common birth in Christianity through Baptism; we share a common role within the Church as baptized Christians, but the fact remains that we would like to be more Christian. The fact is that we have been plunged into the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and, because of this fact, we are changed, and it is our conviction that we are a changed people.

The rationale for our existence has come from the need and the theology of our times. Vatican II has given us a richness of theological thought, that of necessity must redefine our directions. Vatican II has made it clear to us that the church is not only an institution but it is a people-people who believe that Jesus Christ is Lord, people who profess that the pattern for our actions and the fulfillment of our lives is found in following His inspiration. The characteristic by which this people recognize one another and are recognized, is love. The Church is a servant church, and the man who accepts membership must study the signs of the times. The world is caught up in a period of unparalleled change. Membership implies a totally open view of the world with all its problems; and, secondly, it refers to an acceptance of responsibility to work toward bettering, toward healing, the divisions within the family of man.

Our Religious Faculty and Areas of Responsibility:

Sr. Rita Jacques - Coordinator of Pre-school and Pastoral Service Worker
Sr. Mary Quinn - Coordinator of Grade 1 and Pastoral Service Worker
Sr. Mary Alice - Coordinator of Special Education Class, Grade 2, and Parent Family First Communion Preparation Sessions
Sr. Anita - Coordinator of Grades 3 and 4, and Parent Penance Preparation Sessions
Sr. Mary Keanan - Coordinator of Grades 5 and 6
Sr. Cora Marie - Coordinator of Grades 7 and 8 (Adrian Dominican Sister)
Sr. Ellen Enright - Coordinator of High School Program
Sr. Germans - Pastoral Service Coordinator
Sr. Mary Gabriel - Director of Religious Education and Service Programs

First of all, our faculty is a faith community, in which there is respect for each other, concern, a mutual support, and, a sharing of ideas and ideals. There is communication other than the giving of directions, and the seeking of information. The relationships of the faculty here, creates an atmosphere of community that is hard to define or translate into words on a paper such as this.

One glance at the enclosed schedule gives assurance to all that much work is being done. Our Sister coordinators spend a great deal of time preparing themselves for classes, in their weekly preparation and evaluation sessions with lay teacher volunteers, and in weekly staff meetings.

Minutaria faith community groups are being established by each of our coordinators, as they share, not only procedures, content, and know how with their lay members, but, as they share their faith, and give expression of their deep belief in God, His Son, His Spirit, and their fellowmen. What we are accomplishing would be next to impossible for a lone individual to achieve, but, together, we are seeing positive results in our beginnings.

Volunteer lay teachers number nearly sixty at the present time, and that number grows week by week. These dedicated men and women continue to come and grow in numbers because of the fact that they get weekly assistance in the form of planning class sessions from our religious staff. They know what they are going to teach and how, hence, their continuing growth and participation.

Our Lay (Volunteer) Faculty

Pre-school - 9	Grade 7 and 8 - 4
Grade 1-2	High School - 9
Grade 2 - 3	Senior Citizen Apostolate - 3
Grade 3 and 4 - 13	
Grade 5 and 6 - 10	

Our base of operations extends into six parishes. They are:

St. Mary's	St. Catherine (Bay Mills) and the mission parish of
St. Joseph's	Sacred Heart (Sugar Island)
St. Isaac Jogues	Nativity

These six parishes that we serve have very dedicated, interested, and supportive pastors, as well as parishioners who have come forward during our first year of existence to help in any way that they can. Another parish whose pastor is also director of the Newman Center, has recently asked to become a member parish, indicating the widespread influence and interest in being a part of this cooperative program.

We have been blessed with an area board that could be described as ideal if such a word can be used today. It consists of all pastors, two lay members from the larger parishes, and one member from the smaller parishes, and a staff member. A reinforcing attitude that comes through from them is support, and confidence in those who are working in the program, of a calibre that is rarely experienced.

All of our various activities could never be listed. But a sampling would include:

Early in the program - a parent session in each of the six parishes, special sacrament preparation sessions for parents, morning and evening liturgies and dinners for the total faculty, an open letter to parents giving the history of the new catechetical approach, and the content of our program, grade by grade, a questionnaire for parents (completed during a weekly liturgy), special end of the year liturgies in each parish.

PROJECTIONS - HELP - This first year has convinced us of the need for more religious help in a few areas: They are the Senior Citizen Apostolate, the High School Program, the Primary Department, and above all in the Music Department. The services of a person who is a musician, especially one who plays the guitar and sings would add a touch that is sorely missing in our program.

Respectfully submitted,

Sr. Mary Gabriel
Area Program Director

Schedule of Classes

- 3 -

A. Pre-school (Not on released time, most of these children go to kindergarten)

This is currently in operation on:

1. Tuesday morning - 10:25 - 11:25
2. Wednesday afternoon - two sessions - 1:15 - 2:15
3. Thursday afternoon - 12:45 - 2:15
4. Sunday morning at one parish - St. Joseph's

B. Special Education - Thursday afternoon - 2:15 - 3:15

C. Grade school - Released Time Classes

Monday - McKinley (10:00-11:30) at St. Mary * Washington & Bruce (1:15-2:45) at St. Jos.
 Tuesday - Malcolm - (10:15-12:30) at St. Mary * Lincoln (1:45-3:15) at St. Joseph
 Wednesday @ Jefferson (9:00-10:30) at St. Mary Finlayson - (1:00-2:30) at St. Joseph
 Thursday - Garfield (12:45-2:15) at St. Mary Brinley (10:00-11:30) at St. Catherine
 Friday - Soo Township (8:45-10:15) at St. Mary

Bus service is provided for all children in this (C) category.

D. <u>Junior High</u>	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.
Gr. 7	8:30-9:23	8:30-9:23	8:30-9:23	8:30-9:23
Gr. 8	9:19-10:12	10:08-11:01	10:57-11:50	
		12:45-1:38	2:42-3:15	1:34-2:27

Junior High Evening Session - Monday 7:30-8:30 (For students who have no study period during the day)

E. High School - St. Isaac Jogues

Sunday - 7:30 - 8:30 P.M.
 Monday - Sugar Island on alternate Mondays - 7:30 - 8:30 P.M.
 Wednesday - 7:30 - 8:30 P.M.
 Thursday - 7:30 - 8:30 P.M., Bay Mills - 2:00 - 3:00 P.M. on alternate Thursdays

* St. Mary's and St. Joseph's in use because of numbers.

Facilities Being Used

St. Mary's School
 St. Joseph's School
 St. Isaac Jogues Center
 St. Catherine's (Bay Mills) classrooms
 Sacred Heart (Sugar Island) parish center

Present Enrollment: 1,483

Pre-school	78	Grade 6	164
Grade 1	159	7 & 8	220
2	145	High School	237
3	163	Special Education	5
4	158		
5	154		

Our average class size is 15.

F. Senior Citizens -

The number of senior citizens who have been reached through the Program varies with each event. Events held or planned so far this year include: Special liturgies and parties, days of recollection, visits, driving assistance for various necessities, and a workshop on; The Sacrament of the Sick.