

Welcome to St. Joseph School of Religion Program

The Religious Education program of St. Joseph is based on the belief that the formal aspects of the parish program are not meant to be a substitute, but rather a support and enhancement of the life of faith formation being lived in the home environment.

Our Religious Education Program is offered to the children of parishioners to help them fulfill their obligation to teach their children the truths of our Catholic faith. Parishioners include all those who live within the parish boundaries and those who demonstrate their membership by their participation in the ministries of the parish and by their financial support.

Enrollment/ Registration

Enrollment for children entering the first grade in September who have siblings in the program, begins in March. For all others, first grade registration begins June 1. For children transferring from another parish, a transcript from that program is necessary.

To register a child, you must be a registered parishioner and provide us with your child's original baptismal certificate (we will make a copy of the original). Registration takes place once, you do not need to re-register your child each year.

Attendance:

Each grade/level is considered a pre-requisite for the next grade/level. Students must successfully complete each grade/level before moving to the next.

In order for successful completion of each grade level regular, weekly attendance is expected of each student.

Tuition:

\$150 - for one child

\$250 - for two children

\$300 - for three children

\$ 75 - Confirmation Fee (Grade 8 Only)

Payment plans are available upon request. Tuition is due on or before September 15, 2016. Please mail payment to the Religious Education office. Be sure to include the tear off from your bill. Discounts are applied for those who volunteer for our program.

All volunteers must attend VIRTUS training and have a background check done .

Arrival /Dismissal:

Only the main door (the Travis Hall entrance) is to be used as an entrance. All other doors will be locked. You may exit from any door, **BE SURE** no one enters as you exit and that the door is locked behind you. If you arrive late, please use the buzzer at the main door.

Grades 1-6 - classes begin promptly at 5:00. Children go directly to their assigned classes. Door will be locked at the beginning of classes. Door will be unlocked at 5:55. **The children must be picked up from their classroom.** If you are car pooling, you must go to those classrooms as well.

Grade 7 - classes will begin promptly at 7:00. Students will go directly to their assigned classes. Doors will be locked at 7:05 and reopened at 8:30. **Students must be picked up at the classrooms.**

Grade 8 - classes will begin promptly at 7:00. Students will go directly to their assigned classes. Doors will be locked at 7:05 and reopened at 8:30. **Students must be picked up at the classrooms.**

Parking Lot:

There is no parking in the circle. The circle area is for drop off only. If you wish to walk your child in, please park in a designated parking space. Handicap spaces are only for authorized handicap vehicles.

Books and Supplies:

Books will be given out the first day of classes. Each week students should come prepared with their book, double pocket folder and something to write with

Grades 1 - 5: We ask that each child bring in a clear baggie, labeled with child's name, with a small box of crayons, a glue stick, and a scissor. These will be kept in the classroom.

Grades 5 - 8: Will need The Good News Bible, which can be purchased through the Religious Education office for \$6.

Snacks/ Bathrooms:

There will be no eating or drinking during class times. No gum chewing or candy of any kind. Please make sure that your child goes to the bathroom before class begins to cut down on bathroom trips during class times.

Cancellation:

If classes need to be cancelled due to inclement weather it will be on News 12 and www.news12.com and Verizon 1. It will be posted on our facebook page. The message on our phone will also have information. We follow Kings Park School district. If after school activities are cancelled, or school is closed Religious Education classes will also be cancelled.

Parent Meetings:

There will be parent meetings through the year for Sacramental grades. Please check the calendar for times and dates.

Behavior:

We are a community. So it is our hope that all who are involved in our community will act as neighbors. The expectations are simple:

- That respect be shown to all catechists, other adults, volunteers and classmates.
- The students display a Christian attitude in the way they dress, speak and behave.
- Respect to the building, desk and books. Vandalism of any type will not be tolerated.
- The students avoid any behavior that is disruptive to the learning environment.
- If a student behavior becomes an issue, a call will be made home and the student will be spoken with.
- If the behavior continues, a second phone call and a meeting with the student and parent will take place.
- If the behavior continues other arrangements will be made for the student to continue in the Religious Education program.
- No cell phone use of any kind during class time. If the student is using a cell phone during class time, the phone will be brought to the office. Only an adult may pick up the phone during office hours.

Sacrament Procedures:

First Communions are held in the Church. **Only First Communicants and parents sit together.** All siblings and guests are asked to sit in designated areas. The Communions are done the first two Saturdays in May. More details will follow.

Confirmations are held in the Church, due to limited seating, only two tickets per family are given. Sponsor and Candidate do not need a ticket. The date is given to us by the Bishop's office. As soon as we receive the date we will give it out .

Mass:

It is our hope that attending Mass becomes a part of your child's faith formation. To encourage this, we ask that you attend Mass with your child during the year. All grade levels are invited to special Mass. Please check the calendar for the dates.

Mass Times:

Saturday: 5:00 and 6:15

Sunday: Church: 7:30, 9:00, 10:30, 12:00 and 5:00 PM
Travis Hall: 9:30 and 11:00

Check the bulletin or call the Parish Center @ 269- 6635 for Holyday Masses.

Reconciliation:

Reconciliation is also an important Sacrament. All Catholics should attend at least once a year. There is a slip included for Reconciliation. All children in grades 3 - 7 should go to reconciliation during the year. The Priest will sign and date it for your child. The Reconciliation slip can be handed in to the

Catechist or dropped in the collection basket on Sunday if you choose to go during time off.

Reconciliation:

In the Nazareth Chapel in the Parish Center on:

Saturday: 4:00 - 4:45

Eve of Holy Days and first Fridays of each month: 4:00 - 4:45.

Copies of these slips are available in the Religious Education office.

Act of Contrition

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart.
In Choosing to do wrong and failing to do good I have sinned against
you whom I should love above all things.
I firmly intend, with your help to do penance, to sin no more and to
avoid whatever leads me to sin.
Our Savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for us.
In his name, my God, have mercy
Amen

Reconciliation

Name: _____

Date: _____

Signature of Priest

Grade 7 Schedule 2016 - 2017

7:00 - 8:30

Date
October 20
November 3
November 17
December 15
January 5
January 19
February 2
February 16
March 9
March 23
April 6

Grade 8 Schedule 2016 - 2017

7:00 - 8:30 unless otherwise noted.

Date
October 13
October 27
November 10
December 1
December 22
January 12 Retreat times TBA
January 26 Retreat times TBA
February 9
March 2
March 16
March 30
April 20 Interviews times TBA
April 28 Practice times TBA