

## Religious Education Registration 2017 - 2018

*"Let the children come to me, and do not stop them, because the kingdom of God belongs to such as these." Mk 10:14*

The Religious Education program provides spiritual growth and formation with the parish community. The program is to assist families by providing a catechetical program for children from kindergarten through grade eight. Children study the truths and traditions of the faith but most importantly, they will be called to be disciples of Jesus Christ through participation in prayer, Mass, and sacraments. We see our ministry as helping you, the parents. We never forget that you are the primary educators of your children. It is in the loving environment of your family that your children learn to love God. We extend your love and provide formal instruction.

Again this year, we will have two Sunday sessions: 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. This allows the family to attend Mass together either before or after Rel. Ed. Registration for currently enrolled families will have the early option of registering and choosing their preferred session. Completed registration will take priority. Registration is considered complete once the form and tuition/fees are received. Tuition for Rel. Ed. has been frozen in price again this year.

For your review, the R. E. policies that were promulgated in June 2015 are below:

**Attendance:** Regular attendance at Religious Education classes is the key to optimum religious formation. We realize that children may miss an occasional Religious Education class for important reasons, but several missed classes seriously impacts their education and development as the classes build on each other and reinforce lessons learned. Because of this important point, we require that children be present for a minimum of 20 scheduled classes. Parents are to inform the child's teacher, or DRE, of the occasional absence. If frequent absences occur, we will ask the student to repeat the grade.

### **Sacraments:**

**Confirmation:** Our confirmation Program is a two-year commitment. Candidates for the Sacrament of Confirmation will be required to complete two years of Religious Education beginning with seventh grade and culminating through eighth grade. This allows for a more comprehensive faith formation and brings us in line with the common practices in the area.

**First Communion and First Reconciliation:** Our First Communion Program is a two-year commitment. Children will need to begin catechetical instruction in first grade and will receive First Communion at the end of second grade. They will also receive the sacrament of Reconciliation before celebrating their First communion.

In closing, I wish to thank all the parents and parishioners who volunteer their time to teach our children. *We are always planning for the future; therefore, a brief two question opinion survey is on the front side of this letter. Your input is important for planning as to accommodate our families and enrollment when it increases.*

Thank you for sharing the good news of our faith with the next generation so we might grow in our love of God and service to our neighbor.

Pat Weis  
Director of Religious Education