

# Saint Patrick's Catholic Church

## Religious Education

### Policy

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#### Mass attendance:

- ✓ Mass attendance is imperative.
- ✓ It is an integral part of your child's faith formation.
- ✓ The Eucharist is the source and summit of our lives. It is from the Eucharist that we find the strength to follow Christ as members of his body. At the Mass, we do what the Lord commanded his disciples to do the night before he died at the Last Supper: "Do this in memory of me."
- ✓ One of the precepts of the Roman Catholic Church is to attend Mass on Sunday. Failure to do so is a sin. If you miss, you are still obligated to attend the following Sunday, but you must first receive sacramental confession before receiving Holy Communion.
- ✓ Please bring your child to Mass on Sunday.

#### Class attendance:

- ✓ Attendance is required at each and every class.  
Each student should complete a minimum of twenty-five hours of religious education.
- ✓ This will mean no more than 3 absences per year.
- ✓ If absences are excessive in one year, the pastor will discuss the situation with the student and parents to assess a viable plan for the next grade level.
- ✓ If you find that you will not be present, please contact your teacher to obtain missed work.
- ✓ Please be on time to class.  
This will help to maximize the learning time and not be a distraction to the class.
- ✓ Class time is: 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. on every other Wednesday (please consult calendar).

#### Emergency Closings:

The decision to cancel due to weather or other circumstance will be made as soon as possible and communicated to the faithful.

#### Arrival and Departure:

- ✓ When dropping off small children, please walk them to their class for their own safety.
- ✓ All children should be picked up promptly at the end of class.

#### Sacrament classes:

- ✓ First Penance
  - The child is educated on the nature of sin in the first grade.
  - The Sacrament of Penance is received during the second grade.
- ✓ First Communion
  - The child is educated on the Eucharist in the second grade.
  - The child receives the Sacrament at the end of the second grade.
  - Information will be given regarding parent meetings which are mandatory.
- ✓ Confirmation
  - The confirmand is educated in the high school years (beginning 9th grade)

- The confirmand may receive the Sacrament during the high school years (10-12 grades), most commonly during the tenth grade.
- Requirements for Confirmation will be explained to the students upon entry into the Confirmation program.
- All dates and times for rehearsals and ceremonies will be sent by letter.

## Behavior:

✓ Children enrolled in the parish religious education are expected to behave as is appropriate in an educational setting by:

1. Respecting their teachers, adults, and fellow students.
2. Respecting the building in which they are educated.
3. Wearing proper attire. No baseball caps and no revealing clothing of any kind will be allowed. No bulky chains around neck, waist or hips.
4. Being prepared for class. Please bring your folder/paper, pen or pencil.  
Completing all assignments.
5. As a general rule, **no** food should be brought to class. Please eat before arriving for class.

✓ Children who continually fail to follow these guidelines will:

1. Receive a warning from their teacher.
2. Be sent to the parish office to discuss their conduct.
3. Will be asked to conference with parent and teacher.
4. If necessary, the child may be asked to leave the program.