

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

"Parents have the first responsibility for the education of their children"

(Catechism of the Catholic Church 2223)

Welcome to the program of Religious Education at St. Patrick's Church. The staff is here to assist you, the parents, in the education and formation of your children in the Catholic faith and to help fulfill the promise you made when you presented them for Baptism.

REGISTRATION

Grades K-6: Each child must be registered each year for the appropriate class. Classes are held on Sunday mornings from 9:30 – 10:45 AM, in the Parish Center and the Church Hall.

Sacramental Preparation: Each child must be separately enrolled to prepare for the sacraments of initiation. First Penance and First Holy Communion usually take place at the end of second grade. Confirmation usually takes place when the child is at least 13 years old and has been participating in Mass and attending religious education classes, regularly.

Grades 7-12: Teens should be registered for "Young Active Catholics" (YAC), our youth ministry which is run in combination with St. Joseph's Church, Matamoras. The youth ministry follows "Life Teen," a national Catholic program for young Catholics.

RCIA: Rite of Christian Initiation for Teens is a program offered to those students who for some reason have not yet received the sacrament of Confirmation and are in Grades 7-12.

ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance is essential. The Diocese of Scranton requires a minimum of 30 hours of class instruction for each year. If your child is sick, or will be absent, please notify the teacher.

MASS PARTICIPATION

Participation in weekly Mass on Saturday night or Sunday and on Holy days of Obligation is a basic requirement for all Catholics and an essential part of a child's formation in the faith.

The importance of participation in Mass is taught by our regular attendance.

PRAYERS

A copy of all prayers students should be learning will be sent home, each year. These will be introduced in an age appropriate manner and recited during class time. They should be repeated in the home so that they become a source of spiritual growth and nourishment, for a lifetime.

CALENDAR

A Religious Education calendar will be sent home at the beginning of each academic year. Class schedules will be listed as well as important meeting dates, practices and dates for First Penance, First Eucharist and Confirmation.

CANCELLATIONS

Cancellations due to inclement weather will be posted on the parish website. If you do not have internet access, you may call your child's teacher.

STAFF

The religious education teachers are all volunteers who are called by the parish to assist you in the education and formation your children in the Catholic faith. Respect toward teachers and staff is expected. If you can volunteer to help, in any way, (teacher, assistant, substitute) please contact Patricia Greeves, Director of Religious Education.

SPECIAL NEEDS

If your child has any special needs (learning, behavioral or medical) please include that on the registration form and alert the classroom teacher and Director.