

Policies for Religious Education

Safety: We make every effort to keep your child/children safe when they are in the building for Religious Education. It is imperative that you give us your cooperation in order for us to maintain a high standard of safety.

**CHILDREN IN GRADES ONE and TWO MUST BE WALKED TO CLASS BY PARENT OR GUARDIAN.
For Dismissal: All grades will be walked up to the parking lot and dismissed to their parent or Guardian.**

Textbooks: All students are expected to arrive to class with their books and materials each week. If a book is lost or damaged a replacement is to be purchased in the Faith Formation Office.

Attendance: Attendance at the scheduled classes is a vital part of your child's preparation both for the reception of the sacraments and to build a sound foundation for the faith formation from childhood into adulthood. **Arriving 15 minutes late or leaving class early for non-emergencies will be treated as an absence.** Missing class for extracurricular activities is not an excuse. Missed work is expected to be made for the class a student is absent for. **More than 5 unexcused absences will lead to retention at the current level. Levels 7 and 8 can miss no more than 3 classes due to the discussion oriented nature of the program.** We recognize that there are many demands placed upon our families and that there may be situations where compliance with these procedures is not possible. Please contact us so that we can discuss how best to resolve any difficulties.

Mass Attendance: Celebrating the Eucharist is a pillar of Christianity. Please make every effort to attend a Saturday/Sunday weekly mass. **This year, the number of required Mass Reflections is 8.** There are ample masses at Our Lady of Hope and other local parishes to attend. Try to be present for holy days of obligation as they celebrate key foundations of our faith.

Behavior: Our Lady of Hope is a Catholic community, which thrives on Christian principles of respect and courtesy. A firm commitment to individual responsibility is necessary for all students. It is expected that students will obey all the rules and policies of Religious Education process as well as ordinary rules of courtesy and good behavior. Acts of violence directed towards persons and/or property do not have a place in our community. Potentially harmful and dangerous items will not be permitted on the premises at any time.

ALL SPACES AND SUPPLIES ARE TO BE TREATED WITH RESPECT AND TO BE LEFT CLEANLY AS THEY ARE SHARED AMONG MULTIPLE CLASSES.

There will be NO FOOD, DRINKS (water only) and GUM CHEWING, IN CLASS.

In addition the following acts will not be tolerated:

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| - Insolence or disrespect | - Disregard for authority |
| - Leaving class before dismissal without consent | - Use of obscene language |
| - Destruction of school or church property | - Stealing |
| - No electronic devices they will be confiscated and returned to a parent | - Fighting |

Bathroom Usage: The bathroom has become an excuse to leave class and there are instances of children disrupting other classes when leaving to use the bathroom. Parents should encourage children to use the bathroom before coming to class. If a pattern of disruptive behavior occurs, parents will be notified and student bathroom use will be limited. If a child has a medical condition, please notify the director so teachers can be informed.

Photography: Throughout the year, pictures including children at various parish and Faith Formation events may be taken. These photographs are used in the church bulletin and website. Parents are asked to complete a "Photograph Release Form" attached to the policy sheet

PLEASE TEAR OFF AND RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO OFFICE ASAP

I have read the above and discussed it with my child(ren)

Child(ren) names _____

Parent/ Guardian Print Name

Parent/Guardian Signature