

Cathedral of St. Patrick MACS Family Parish Participation Agreement

Please fill out this document to request certification as an actively participating Catholic family at the Cathedral of St. Patrick for purposes of obtaining a MACS tuition discount.

Please note that a family must be registered and actively participating at the Cathedral for at least 6 months before requesting this discount.

The responsibilities and commitments of actively participating Catholic families are described below. Please read each statement carefully and indicate that you agree by initialing below each line. **Both parents must add their initials to each statement and sign at the end.**

Preamble

We understand that, according to MACS policy:

In order to support participating Catholic families, MACS offers a Participating Catholic tuition rate to eligible families. To receive this discounted rate, families must be registered at a local parish within the Diocese of Charlotte and both parents and children together should be actively engaged in the life of their parish. Active participation includes, at a minimum,

- *Mass attendance on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation*
- *Service to the parish through time, talent, and treasure*
- *Up to date on Sacraments*

See: www.discovermacs.org/admissions/tuitionandaffordability

Initials: _____

“Mass Attendance on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation”

As a family, parents and children together, we commit to following the Precepts of the Church (CCC 2041-2043), which constitute the minimum obligations of practicing Catholics, namely:

- You shall attend Mass on Sundays and on holy days of obligation and rest from servile labor.
- You shall confess your sins at least once a year.
- You shall receive the sacrament of the Eucharist at least during the Easter season.
- You shall observe the days of fasting and abstinence established by the Church.
- You shall help provide for the needs of the Church.

Initials _____

Concerning these Precepts, we understand the following:

- Sunday Mass attendance as a family is a serious moral and spiritual obligation, and we commit to attending Sunday Mass as a family even when we are on vacation or traveling for youth activities such as sports or for any other reason.
- We understand that attending Mass on weekdays, including school Mass on Fridays, does not fulfill this Sunday obligation.
- In addition to every Sunday of the year, we commit to attending Mass on the Holy Days of Obligation designated by the Church, which are: January 1 (Mary Mother of God), August 15 (Assumption), November 1 (All Saints), December 8 (Immaculate Conception), and December 25 (Christmas).
- We commit as a family to going to the Sacrament of Confession regularly throughout the year.
- We commit to observing the fast (one full meal and two small meals) and abstinence from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday and to abstaining from meat on all the Fridays in Lent. We understand that the obligations of fasting and abstinence are binding on those between the ages of 14 and 59.

Initials _____

We understand that to be certified as an actively participating Catholic family at the Cathedral of St. Patrick, we must attend Sunday Mass at the Cathedral on a majority of Sundays throughout the year, but that Mass attendance in itself does not exhaust the responsibilities of a participating family.

Initials _____

We commit to recording our Mass attendance as a family – parents and children together - by placing our numbered parishioner envelope in the collection basket at every Sunday Mass at the Cathedral of St. Patrick. We understand that we will not be certified as a participating family without this record of Mass attendance.

We understand that online donations will not be counted for the purposes of Mass attendance, nor will envelopes submitted before or after Sunday Mass or during the week.

Initials _____

“Service to the Parish Through Time and Talent”

As a family, parents and children together, we commit to ongoing participation in the life of the parish beyond Sunday Mass attendance by attending parish events and by volunteering in the following specific ways (check all that apply):

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ Faith Formation catechist or assistant | ☐ Community Outreach Ministry |
| ☐ Lector, usher, or sacristan | ☐ Family Ministry |
| ☐ Cathedral Choir | ☐ Marriage Ministry |
| ☐ Altar boys | ☐ Bible study or other organized faith group |
| ☐ Altar Guild | ☐ Pancake Breakfasts and/or Fish Fries |
| ☐ OCIA sponsor or catechist | ☐ Other:* |
-

* Please contact the parish office at ParishOffice@stpatricks.org for more information about ministries and events.

“Service to the Parish through... Treasure”

We understand that the Cathedral of St. Patrick is assessed more than \$100,000 from our offertory collection each year to support MACS students, and that this amount is partially calculated based on the number of students registered in our parish.

Initials _____

We commit to making regular financial contributions (online or by check) to the parish offertory according to our means, with the goal of offsetting the approximately \$1,000 per student per year paid by the parish. (In the **2025-2026** school year, the MACS subsidy paid by the Cathedral was \$122,354, or approximately \$1,122 per student.)

Initials _____

We understand that our family’s contributions to Catholic school fundraisers are separate from and do not contribute to the support of the parish.

Initials _____

“Up to Date on Sacraments”

We commit to enrolling our children in the age-appropriate sacramental preparation program at the Cathedral of St. Patrick for First Holy Communion (2nd grade) and Confirmation (8th grade).

If any of our children are behind on sacraments, we commit to informing the parish office promptly and enrolling them in an appropriate program this year.

As Catholic parents, if we ourselves are missing any sacraments (such as Confirmation or Marriage), we commit to informing the parish office and beginning preparation for them this year.

Initials _____

Family Information

Names of Parents		Phone	Email
Address			
Marital Status	☐ Sacramental Marriage ☐ Civil Marriage Only ☐ Not Married		

Name of Child	Age	Grade	School	Sacraments
				☐ Baptism ☐ First Communion ☐ Confirmation
				☐ Baptism ☐ First Communion ☐ Confirmation

				☐ Baptism ☐ First Communion ☐ Confirmation
				☐ Baptism ☐ First Communion ☐ Confirmation
				☐ Baptism ☐ First Communion ☐ Confirmation
				☐ Baptism ☐ First Communion ☐ Confirmation

Signature

By signing and submitting this document to the pastor of the Cathedral of St. Patrick we commit to making a serious effort to fulfill the responsibilities of a participating family as described above. We understand that our status as a participating family will be re-evaluated each year based on our showing a good-faith effort to fulfill these responsibilities.

Signature of Parents

Date

Signature of Pastor
