

# Saint Joseph Faith Formation Program Guidelines

## General

- ❖ Students are responsible for bringing their books to class, completing assignments, and showing respect for their catechists and classmates, for their belongings, and for the property of St. Joseph Parish. Students may receive backpacks, notebooks, folders, and other materials. ***Please check your child's backpack and folder regularly.***
  - If materials or books are lost, new ones must be purchased at the expense of the parents.
  - We must abide by the rules and regulations of Saint Joseph Parish. If any damage occurs, it will be the responsibility of the parties involved to make reparations.
  - Students who disrupt the class will be sent to the office to do their lesson. Parents will be contacted if unruly behavior persists.
- ❖ For the safety of all and for the respect of all, **NO food, cell phones, electronic devices, gum, hats and/or hoodies are permitted in class.** If a phone or electronic device is being used without the teacher's permission, a teacher has the right to confiscate it and will return it to the parent/guardian at dismissal.
- ❖ Water bottles are allowed, but **food will NOT be permitted** unless organized by the catechists and approved by the DRE. **We need to be mindful of the students in our program who have severe, life-threatening allergies.**
- ❖ **No NURSE on staff.** To ensure the health and safety of your child, it is the policy of the Diocese of Bridgeport that a parent/guardian or a person designated by the parent/guardian must remain on-site for the duration of the class with a child who is subject to severe allergies.

## Arrival and Dismissal

- ❖ On time arrival for class is crucial. Classes will begin on time, for the respect of those who have arrived on time. If your child arrives late, please remind him/her to enter the classroom quietly.
- ❖ Please observe the campus speed limit of 5 miles per hour.
- ❖ Please drop off and pick up children at the front door in a timely manner. *Since students will not be allowed in the classroom before the catechists arrive, please do not drop them off earlier than 10 minutes before class time.*
- ❖ For your children's safety, please park your car and escort your child to the front entrance (Main Street) of the Carmen Lucia Buck Religious Education Building. **Please do not drop-off or pick-up your child in the driveway and, unless your vehicle is displaying a valid handicap placard or license plate, please do not park your car or keep your car idle in the spots reserved for individuals with disabilities.**

## Attendance

- ❖ Regular attendance is essential. Students are allowed 3 absences.
- ❖ For early dismissal or if your child will be absent, call or send an email to Mrs. Cintia Weber at [CWeber@stjosephdanbury.org](mailto:CWeber@stjosephdanbury.org) by no later than 2:00pm.

## Calendar

- ❖ Our program follows the Danbury Public Schools schedule; class schedules may be disrupted occasionally by weather-related dismissals, holidays, or other occurrences.
- ❖ **We do have classes when Danbury schools have early release days.**
- ❖ When Danbury Public Schools close or cancel after-school activities, we cancel classes.
- ❖ Please consult the Class calendar for class dates and the Events calendar for family and church community activities, both of which are listed in the bulletin and online.

## Mass and Prayer

- ❖ We strongly encourage all of our families to attend Sunday Mass. Through reception of the Holy Eucharist, we are nourished spiritually; we participate in thanksgiving to our Lord; and we are joined with Christ and one another. The Mass schedule is listed in the church bulletin and on [the church website](#). Our Vigil Mass on Saturdays is at 4:00 pm and on Sundays, St. Joseph offers Masses at 7:30, 9:30, and 11 am, as well as at 5:00 pm.
- ❖ **All students are expected to ask a priest to sign a church bulletin when they attend Mass and bring it to class the same week.**
- ❖ Classes begin and end with prayer.
- ❖ Please keep a Bible and a crucifix visible in your home. ***Make prayer an important part of your home life.***
  - Prayer requirements for each grade level will be provided by catechists.
  - Reflection on the Sunday Gospel reading can be located through [Sunday Setup](#), one of the many resources provided by the Diocese of Bridgeport through the Institute for Catholic Formation. Subscribe today at <https://startwithsunday.org/> and get readings, animated videos, and fun activities delivered to your inbox weekly.

## Office Hours, not including class times

- ❖ Mondays to Wednesdays: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
- ❖ Thursdays: 9:00 am to 12:00 Noon

## For inquiries, please contact:

- ❖ Mrs. Cintia Weber, Secretary of Faith Formation, by email: [CWeber@stjosephdanbury.org](mailto:CWeber@stjosephdanbury.org) or by phone at 203-778-1920
- ❖ Mrs. Maria Merino-Schweitzer, Director of Faith Formation, by email: [maria.schweitzer@stjosephdanbury.org](mailto:maria.schweitzer@stjosephdanbury.org) or by phone at 203-778-1920