

All Saints Pastorate Religious Education Student/Parent Policy Handbook

2026-2027

Christ's Peace Be With You!

Welcome to the Religious Education Program in the All Saint Pastorate,

All Saints Pastorate Religious Education Program has a twofold objective- the learning of the great mysteries of our Catholic Faith and coming to know the person of Jesus Christ. Our desire is that the young people in our Pastorate will grow in love and knowledge of God.

This handbook exists to help establish policies and expectations for both parents and students to our Pastorate to create an environment that is conducive for our young people to exercise their innate sense of wonder as they come in contact with the great mysteries of the Divine.

1. The Role of Religious Education and Catechesis

- "Catechesis aims- in an organic and systematic way with a view to initiate hearers into the fullness of the Christian Life" *Catechesi Tradendae* 18

The All Saints Pastorate recognizes that the parents are the primary educators of their children. The Church desires to accompany parents in their efforts to pass on their faith. The Church sees Catechesis as her right and duty as well as shared but differentiated responsibility with its families. Therefore, the Church seeks to offer multiple opportunities for people of all ages to systematically know the person of Jesus Christ, through various forms and opportunities provided by the Pastorate.

Our Religious Education programs seek to accomplish the following:

- To come in encounter, to know, and to understand the person of Jesus Christ, His teachings, and His Church,
- Through prayer, come to know Jesus Christ and His love for each person
- To receive the opportunity to participate more fully in the Church's Sacramental and liturgical life.
- Come to know the Saints and to look to them as examples on both morally and spiritually
- Through our loving relationship with Jesus Christ, we desire that He lead and guide our thoughts, words, and actions.

2. Partnership with Parents and Guardians

The All Saints Pastorate recognises that the parents are the primary educators of their children. The Church desires to accompany parents in their efforts to pass on the Faith to their Children. The Church sees Catechesis as her right and duty as well as shared but differentiated

responsibility with its families. The most successful transmission of the Faith is when catechesis is lived out in the home, supported in Religious Education, and lived out in the Sacramental and liturgical life of the Parish.

Parent and Guardian expectations are as followed:

- Lead their families in their practice of the Faith. This includes weekend Mass attendance, daily personal prayer as well as prayer with the entire family
- To be open and encourage vocation discernment for their children. To have confidence in the Lord that in our vocation is where we truly find our greatest happiness. Whether we are called to live with Him in Holy Marriage, the Priesthood, or Religious Life.
- Bring their children on time to Religious Education and work with DRE and catechists
- Attend required Sacramental preparation sessions
- Be attentive to Pastorate communications about cancellations and additional information set through text messages and emails.

3. Student Expectations

In the Gospels Christ says *“To love one another as I have loved you”* Therefore, as a student in the All Saints Religious Education Programs we strive to treat everyone as Christ loves them.

Student Behavioral Expectations:

- To treat everyone with respect and dignity
- To listen to Catechists and other adults
- To participate appropriately in classroom activities and discussions
- To respect Church property and resources
- To use respectful language

To maintain a learning environment that is open and engaging to all students, excessive disrupting behaviors will not be tolerated and will seek to be corrected. Disciplining excessive disrupting behaviors will be as followed.

- 1st Offense: Warning
- 2nd Offense: Removal from the classroom
- 3rd Offense: Removal from the classroom and a meeting with the parents and either one of the Priests or Evan Baumberger.

4. Tools and Resources offered to Families

To continue to help support parents as the primary educators of their children, the Pastorate seeks to support parents in more ways than just Religious Education at the Parish. We notice that living the Faith out in the home is vital to the successful transmission of the Faith. Therefore, the Pastorate has made significant investments in Catholic content and media to be accessible and usable in the ordinary moments of family life. These resources are made available to each family with no additional cost.

Hallow:

Catholic prayer app helps individuals and families incorporate prayer into their busy lives and schedules. Every family in the All Saints Pastorate, as part of their registration, can receive access to the entire Hallow content library. With hundreds of hours of prayer, Scripture reflections, music, audio books, and more, each family can gain access to this media via their phone or tablet. Please email Evan Baumberger at disciplehsip@stmbrookings.org to set up your family's account

Formed:

It has been compared as the Catholic Disney+ or the Catholic Netflix. Formed is an online streaming platform with world class Catholic content. A product of the Augustine Institute, Formed offers hundreds of hours of movies, kids shows, Saint documentaries, and more. Formed is a safe and family friendly way to your family media. To make an account; go to [Formed.org](https://www.formed.org) and create an account. Type in St. Thomas More Brookings as your parish and you will receive access to the Formed library.