

St Patrick – St Hyacinth – St Rocco

Glen Cove Catholic Religious Education 2026-2027

gc.religious.ed@gmail.com

(516) 676-0276 press 3

Dear Parents,

Before I talk about the program for the upcoming year, it must always be said that the primary responsibility to raise children in the Catholic Faith rests firmly upon the shoulders of parents. This cannot be outsourced, and the Church can only provide support to parents in this endeavor. Without the good example of parents and their involvement in the lives of their children, found primarily in taking their children to Mass every week, whatever the Church can provide will likely be of little use. That having been said, the parish Religious Education Program for the 2026-2027 year will be as follows:

Glen Cove Catholic

The Churches of St Patrick, St Rocco and St Hyacinth are now one united parish, and we have one Religious Education Program. Since the program is unified, some sessions may take place at one of our various churches/campuses. Depending on enrollment, the reception of sacraments will typically be offered at St Patrick and St Rocco, and families will be able to choose from either option.

Supremacy of Mass Attendance

While there are no Mass attendance requirements for the First Communion and Confirmation candidates, it cannot be stressed too much how critical Mass attendance is for every Catholic. Missing Mass without a legitimate reason (illness, work, travel) is a grave sin. The 3rd Commandment has been given to use not because God needs our worship, but because we need to humbly worship God on His terms (not our own). To be blunt, to present your children to receive these sacraments without the corresponding habit of Mass attendance makes a mockery out of and “merit-badges” the sacraments, which are supposed to be moments during which our relationship with God deepens. This relationship cannot be strengthened when one refuses God’s will for us to worship Him weekly in the Mass.

Registration Times and Fees

Religious Education fees, which help pay for the program and help support the Church, will remain the same as last year and are listed below. Online registrations will open in June with links to the registration portal posted at... <https://www.glencovecatholic.org/religious-education>.

One Student:	\$150
Additional Students:	\$25/each
First Communion:	+ \$100
Confirmation:	+ \$100
Catchup Online Courses:	\$25/each course

REMINDER: Change in Confirmation Age/Grade

As of last year, we have moved Confirmation to 7th grade. For 8th grade students who still need to receive Confirmation, please register for Confirmation with the 7th graders. Confirmations will take place in early autumn, 2027.

Fr Gabriel Rach

Pastor, St Patrick Parish – St Rocco – St Hyacinth

Parents' First Communion Requirements

Parents, you are responsible for ensuring your child(ren) complete the requirements listed below by the corresponding deadlines. All requirements and deadlines are final. Your child will be ***admitted*** to the scheduled First Communion only when you complete the below requirements...

Requirements	Deadline	Complete?
☐ Register with St Patrick/Hyacinth/Rocco https://www.glencovecatholic.org/religious-education Shortly after the registration deadline, the online course logins are sent and students may begin the course.	September 14, 2026	
☐ Complete Communion Prep Course	April 1, 2027	
☐ Make a First Confession. See below. Parents are required to be physically present at the preparation sessions the entire time.	April 3, 2027	

☐ **First Communion / Confession Preparation**

Four one-hour sessions will be held on **Saturday mornings (11am-12pm)** throughout the year. It is important for your child to attend these sessions as they will focus on preparing them for their First Confession, as well as reinforce what you have taught them, namely that receiving Communion is about the reception of the real Body and Blood of Christ. It will be at the final session that the children's First Confessions will be heard.

Parents are required to be physically present at the preparation sessions the entire time.

	Theme	Date	Location
Session 1	The Body and Blood of Christ	Saturday, October 17, 2026	St Rocco
Session 2	Why the Mass is so Important	Saturday, December 12, 2026	St Patrick
Session 3	Why Confession – Confessions for Parents (give example)	Saturday, March 13, 2027	St Rocco
Session 4	How to go to Confession – Confessions for Children	Saturday, April 3, 2027	St Rocco 10am St Patrick 1pm

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Parent Testimony

I, the parent of _____, have read and accept my responsibilities, and acknowledge that I must complete the requirements to have my child receive his/her First Communion.

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

Date: _____