
St.
Joseph
Church

7/16/25

Dear parents,

As we are less than two months from the start of Religious Education for the 2025-2026 school year, I have some important and exciting updates and reminders.

First, registration is available online this year. You can follow the link or use the below QR code (<https://form.jotform.com/251815726442054>). I will be available after the Masses the weekend of August 16th & 17th to answer any questions as well as for anyone who prefers to fill out a physical form. We are continuing this year to offer Religious Ed for FREE.

As with every year, I am looking for people to help make our Religious Education program run smoothly. If you would be willing to be a Catechist, a substitute, or a classroom assistant, please email or call me. We need at least 4 catechists this year. If you are willing, but hesitant or want to know more information, I am happy to set up a time to meet so you can see what the requirements are, what you will be provided, etc. before committing! This is a very rewarding way of volunteering and can also be a way for you to teach the young church of today and to learn yourself. Also, you do not have to be a parent to help in one of these roles! If you know a grandparent, a young adult, or really any other parishioners that you think would be good in one of these roles, peer encouragement can go a long way!

In regards to the schedule, we will again be meeting **Wednesdays from 6-7:15pm!** We will have a family class with a meal to kick things off on September 3rd. This will be an opportunity to meet the teachers, meet any new families, and help set everyone up for a successful year! Regular classes will begin on September 10th.

We will be continuing our Family Masses this year! Attached, you will find the schedule. These are remaining on the **third Sundays** of the month, except for December and March. There will be no Family Masses in January or April. We also did our best to go from oldest to youngest grades to make it easier to remember which grade is in charge of which month. As with last year, the first four months are available now for you to volunteer.

One new thing this year is for those in 7th & 8th grade. Once a month, in place of their Religious Ed classes will be a Jr. High Youth Group. These range from social gatherings, to prayer, to service. You can find that schedule on the back of the regular Religious Ed calendar. As these will be slightly larger numbers, I am looking for adults who would be willing to help out at those events specifically. If you'd be interested in being a chaperone for these, please let me know!

Finally, I would like to note the importance of continuing faith formation between sacraments. Our Confirmation program is laid out with the expectation that the candidates have received a solid foundation in their understanding of their Catholic faith. So, this is just a reminder that Religious Education is just as important for a second grader as it is for someone in 3rd-8th grade. After all, the call to walk with Jesus never ends!

As always, this is a lot of information, so if you have any questions at all, please email me at sjyouth@gmtel.net or call me at (563)659-3514 ext. 4.

God bless!

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