



St. Rose of Lima – Religious Education Program
51 Lincoln Place, Freehold NJ 07728
reled@stroseoflimachurch.org | 732-308-0215

St Rose of Lima Church

Religious Education Program



Rev. Joel Wilson, Pastor

Rev. Jorge Arias, Pastor of the Spanish community

Mrs. Dulce M Linares, Coordinator

Mrs. Joan Lope, Safety Environment, Child & Youth Protection

Mrs. Belen Medina, Assistant Office

51 Lincoln Place, Freehold, NJ 07728

Phone: (732) 308-0215 (& ONLY WhatsApp message) 

Email: reled@stroseoflimachurch.org

Office Hours

September to April: Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM & Friday **Closed**

Tuesdays 1:30 – 8:30 PM

Saturday 9:00 – 11:30 AM & Sundays 10:00 -12:30

Summer hours: Monday – Friday 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

July & August Friday closed



Welcome to St. Rose of Lima's Religious Education Program

Our mission is that each child will have changing experiences of God's love at home and in class.

This handbook will help to familiarize you with our program. Please realize that the program is meant only to supplement your vocation as a Parent. **Children learn by example.** We hope that all our Catholic parents reinforce the responsibility of our faith by making sure that their children attend Sunday Mass regularly as a family. Also, the family is encouraged to receive the Sacrament of Penance often and to pray each day together. As minister to your children, be especially mindful of the following expectations, which are in keeping with the basic doctrines of the Catholic tradition.

Please plan to:

1. Attend Mass weekly as a family.
2. Keep connected as a church community.
3. Make prayer and our faith an important part of your daily life.

By modeling these behaviors, you are setting the best possible example for your child. With the help of the parish staff, Fr. Joel, Fr. Jorge, Fr. Leo, Fr. John, Fr. Tonny, Deacon Andy, Deacon George, catechists, volunteers and you, the parent, we pledge to do our best to ensure a fruitful year of Religious Education for your child.



Religious Education class times

Please bring your child to class on time. Students who arrive late not only miss out on important information and class time, but they also disrupt the class. **4 late arrivals will be considered as 1 absence.**

Tuesday afternoon: Grades 1st, 6th & F.E.P. I-II

5:00 – 6:30 PM

Tuesday evening: Grades 7th & 8th

7:00 – 8:30 PM

Saturday morning: Grades 1st, 6th & F.E.P. I-II

9:30 – 11:00 AM

Sunday morning: Grades 7th & 8th

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM Class at St Rose School

Sunday morning: High school teens O.C.I.A. I - II

9:00 - 10:15 AM Spanish mass in the Chapel following by

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM Class at St Rose School



Weekly Mass

It is the parents' right and responsibility to transmit their faith to their children. A serious commitment to faith formation is expected from all parents and children. Therefore, it is expected that all children enrolled in our program and their families will attend Mass every week. **It is nearly impossible to expect a Religious Education Program to succeed if the central act of worship is ignored.**

Passport Activity

Saturday OR Sunday Mass Attendance: For all Students in our program are required to attend Mass on Saturday OR Sunday. Please present your Passport at the beginning or end of Mass by asking the usher to give you a stamp. Alternative to the passport is to bring to class a church bulletin signed by the celebrant from another Church.

Our program requires a minimum of 20 Mass attendances, in addition to family activities.

If your child does not complete this activity, it may affect receiving the sacrament in the spring and no other alternative assignment will make up this requirement.

Passport Activity will be distributed at our Parent meetings (1st day of class in the school cafeteria)

Mass Times and Confessions

English mass

Saturday at: 4:00 PM Chapel

Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturdays at 10:00 AM

Sunday at:

Church: 9:30 AM

Chapel: 11:00 AM

12:30 PM

Spanish Mass

Saturday at: 7:00 PM Chapel

Sunday at: 7:00 & 9:00 AM Chapel

Sacrament of Reconciliation half hour before every mass.



Parents' Responsibilities

- Will be responsible for the faithful weekly attendance of their children at Religious Education Classes.
- Will set a good example by attending Mass regularly with their children and by practicing Christian morals at home.
- Will notify the religious education office at 732-308-0215 or send an email: reled@stroseoflimachurch.org in the case of a necessary absence.
- Will contact their child's teacher with any questions regarding class times, behavior questions or possible misunderstandings.
- Will instill a positive attitude toward religious education as well as respect for the teachers and their children's peers.
- Will pick up their children promptly at the close of classes and activities, **10 minutes of tolerance, please handle your times.**
- Will attend parent meetings as scheduled during the year, if unable to attend, the parent will call the coordinator in advance.
- Will complete family activities as scheduled during the year, as part of their children's faith formation.



Parents of Home School Students

Students are only permitted to Home School in our program for 3rd, 4th, 5th & 6th grades. We encourage both; the child and family to be part of our faith community. Only under special circumstances will we make an exception.

Parents of homes school students should:

Guidelines

- ✓ Students will receive a textbook
- ✓ Parent/teacher devotes one hour per lesson, once a week.
- ✓ Students should complete all activities and quizzes/mini tasks at the end of each chapter.
- ✓ There are 4 Units, comprised of 5-6 chapters in the book. When a unit has been completed, your child should complete the Unit test, and you are to submit the completed test to our office. You can scan or take a picture of it and email it to us to reled@stroseoflimachurch.org
- ✓ Students are required to learn and recite the appropriate prayers for their grade level.
- ✓ Students are required to learn Mass Prayers and Responses
- ✓ **6th grade students** are required to perform 1 hour of community service. This commitment can be met through local community groups.
- ✓ I will see to it that my child(ren) attend Mass regularly on weekends to complete **Passport Activity along with Family Activities**, as part of their faith formation.

You'll receive an email from the office 2 weeks before the classes start, with more information about the date to pick up the book and folder.



Sacramental Preparation

Reconciliation:

Reconciliation is a two-year program involving first and second graders + F.E.P. I – II. The process begins with an Enrollment ceremony with the Children and Parents, and the Reconciliation celebration takes place in the winter. The Reconciliation preparation is done in the faith sessions and by the family at home with material provided by the Religious Education office on Reconciliation gathering. We also encourage you to participate as a family in Reconciliation services held in the parish throughout the year.

First Eucharistic:

First Eucharist is also a two-year program involving first and second grades + F.E.P. I – II. This program provides for the involvement of priest, parents, catechist, and children, faith sharing at home, and special Family Sacrament Experiences. The First Eucharist/Reconciliation family program is in addition to the regular classroom sessions. We expect you to attend weekly Mass with your child in preparation for their reception of First Eucharist.

Confirmation:

The Confirmation process is a two-year program involving seventh and eighth grades + O.C.I.A. I - II. Confirmation candidates, parents and/or sponsors will attend Confirmation Retreat and should fully participate.

The retreat begins in the school gym and ends with Eucharistic Adoration in the Chapel. **Retreat Attendance is mandatory for all to be confirmed.**



Religious Education Guidelines

Attendance:

Attendance is taken each week, and parents may be contacted if a student misses **THREE consecutive classes**. If any student must be absent, parents should contact your student's catechist or main office 732-308-0215 or reled@stroseoflimachurch.org

Make-up option:

If a student is absent from class, the lesson must be completed at home and present the following week. All parents will be provided with a calendar with dates and lessons. A parent must sign the child's book, indicating that he/she supervised the lesson. **(3 times only)**

Excessive absences may result in your child being unable to receive the sacrament. This is extremely important during sacramental preparation.

Tardiness:

Please bring your child to class on time. Children who arrive late not only miss out on important information and class time, but they also disrupt the class. **If the child is more than 15 minutes late 4 times, it will count as absence.**

Cell Phone Policy:

We realize that devices such as cell phones have become a regular part of daily life and is necessary tool in keeping communication open with children, especially when parents are working. However, it can be disruptive during class time. Therefore, **NO USE OF CELL PHONES DURING CLASS**. If the catechist or aide sees a student using a cell phone during class more than one time, it will result in it being confiscated by the catechist and given to the coordinator.

Students may only use their cell phones with the permission of the catechist to do class related projects during class. Otherwise, they may not have access to them. If any student has a legitimate need to use a cell phone during class time, she/he should explain the need to the coordinator in advance.

Only in case of an emergency, parents may get in contact with their child during class, they can call the office 732-308-0215.



PROTOCOLS AND SAFETY PROCEDURES FOR OUR PROGRAM

Drop off:

Parents may accompany their children to each session for grades 1st to 5th. Please use door #9 to enter the building.

Dismissal:

For the safety of our children, we have these Dismissal Procedures in place:

- **Sunday Morning: Grades 7th, 8th & O.C.I.A. I – II:** A parent or another designated adult or sibling must come into the U-shape parking lot towards the school cafeteria (door #8) to pick up the student, sign the dismissal sheet and walk out with them.
- **Tuesday & Saturday: Grades 1 – 6 and FEP I - II:** A parent or another designated adult or sibling must come into the U-shape parking lot towards the school cafeteria (door #8) to pick up the student, sign the dismissal sheet and walk out with them.
- **Tuesday Evening: Grades 7th, 8th:** A parent or another designated adult or sibling must come into the U-shape parking lot towards the school cafeteria (door #8) to pick up the student, sign the dismissal sheet and walk out with them.

There is too much traffic and confusion at these times to allow any other dismissal procedure.

**** If your child will be walking to/from home, please see page 13 for permission slip, as soon as you complete it, take a picture and send an email to: reled@stroseoflimachurch.org or WhatsApp.**

Early Dismissal from Class:

If your child needs to leave early, a parent must see the coordinator first to pick up. If another adult is picking up your child, they must have a written note from parents or must send an email prior pick up.

No student will be allowed to leave class early, unless a parent is present or has written note/email.

Any child whose parents are late will be brought back upstairs to wait in the office. Please try to be on time (10 minutes before the dismissal), but in case of emergency, please call the office 732-308-0215 and we will stay with your child until you arrive.



WE ASK THAT ALL PARENTS COOPERATE WITH THESE SAFETY MEASURES AND PARK CARS IN VALID PARKING PLACES, TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF ALL STUDENTS, STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS.

Being Prepared:

All students are expected to arrive with a good attitude and ready to learn. Students are also expected to fully participate in class, complete all assignments/requirements, and pass their final tests. Students are not permitted to bring toys or any sports equipment to class. They must be left with a Coordinator outside of class.

Textbooks:

All students are required to have a string bag, tote or backpack for their religious education materials needed for class. A folder will be provided for classroom handouts, study guides and materials. Please make sure that you check your child's folder each week for announcements or correspondence from the teacher. Students are required to bring their Religious Ed bag with folder with study guide each week to class, **if anyone loses the book there is a \$25.00 fee to replace it.**



General Information

Communication: The Religious Education Office sends out most communication by email. Please check your email spam folder to be sure our emails to you are not landing there. Email will come from reled@stroseoflimachurch.org

Church Bulletin: We will provide critical information such as events, times and dates in the Parish Bulletin each week. Please keep an eye out for this information as you attend Mass.

Parish Website: St. Rose of Lima will provide as much information as possible regarding the religious education program on the parish website. We incorporate registration materials and any other critical information on the website. Please check the parish website at <https://www.stroseoflima.com/religious-education> for more information and ongoing updates.

Inclement Weather: If classes are cancelled due to inclement weather, announcements will be made by email,

Confidential Information: All information relating to a student's classroom performance or of a personal nature is confidential and will be treated as such by the catechists, office staff, and parish staff.

Custody Issues Please notify us if only one parent/guardian has the custodial care of a child during class time. We must be aware of who may or may not pick up children during or after class.

Special Needs: St. Rose of Lima's Religious Education Program is open to all children. Parents are asked to indicate their child's special needs on the registration form so that the needs of your child may be met and any additional help or materials needed in the classroom can be obtained. Most children with special needs can be included in regular classes with some assistance from an aide. Any information provided by the parents is held in strict confidence by the staff and your child's catechist.

Refreshments Food and drinks should not be brought into the class, only water is permitted. Your child is with us for a very limited time. The students should have lunch or a snack before arriving for class.

Special occasion: Catechist may provide snacks during special occasion; they are required to be served in the cafeteria area with previous notice.

Bathrooms: Please remind your child to use the bathroom facilities at home before coming to class. This also applies to getting drinks during class time. These facilities are



available for emergencies. Since the students are with us for such a short time, we strive to avoid interruptions as much as possible.

DISCIPLINE & BEHAVIOR CONTRACT

Our Catechist and we realize that teaching your child is a tremendous responsibility and we will do our best to ensure that each student has a faithful learning experience in this upcoming year. All Catechists are volunteers are very generous in giving their time to share and teach the Catholic faith to your children and help bring them closer to Jesus Christ. They deserve the most respect for all their efforts. A reminder concerning basic expectations for classroom behavior:

1. Follow all directions and classroom rules from Catechist/Coordinator.
2. Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself.
3. No teasing, bullying, or any inappropriate language in class and hallways.

We all hope that when our children are not around us, they have been given the skills to act appropriately, however, sometimes they forget and need a reminder. It is the responsibility of parents, educators, and community to teach our children the importance of being kind and considerate to others.

The following behavior **will not be accepted** in our program:

- Disrespect to teachers, aides, volunteers or fellow students.
- Negative attitudes, rude behavior, or language.
- Disrupting the classroom.
- Use of cell phones in class
- Refusal to participate in class or complete assignments.
- Disrespect/destruction of another student's property or school property. ***Parents may be asked to pay for property damage caused by their child.**

Remember that each day is a chance to start fresh. We know that this will help us to enjoy our time together!



Parent permission - Student release

2026-2027

My signature on this release indicates that I give my permission and understand the procedures that I apply to Religious Education Program at St. Rose of Lima Freehold. My child **WILL NOT be met at the end of every class with adult supervision to walk home alone OR leave the building once classes are over.**

I understand that the practice of releasing my child to an adult is intended for my child's safety and that waiving this protection may expose my child to risk that are beyond the Religious Education Program at St. Rose of Lima Freehold control. I release the Religious Education Program, its volunteer, staff and representatives from any claims for injury or loss to my child or myself.

Student's name: _____

Parent/Guardian's: _____

Parent/guardian Signature: _____ **Date:** _____