

# **2019 Religious Education Program Guidelines 2020**

## **Welcome to the Notre Dame Religious Education Program!**

The Catholic Church recognizes that you, the parents, are the primary educators of your children, especially in matters of faith and morals. Following is a direct quote from the Catechism of the Catholic Church:

*“Education in faith by the parents should begin in the child’s earliest years...Family catechesis precedes, accompanies, and enriches other forms of instruction in the faith. Parents have the mission of teaching their children to pray and to discover their vocation as children of God.” (CCC 2226)*

Our recent popes have promoted and encouraged parents to take an active role in their children’s growth in faith, to be their primary educators. The Religious Education team strongly agrees with the Church and wants to count on you to help us in teaching the Catholic faith to your children. We will do our part in the classroom. We ask that you do the following as a family:

- Make Sunday Mass attendance an important priority.
- Incorporate Catholic traditions at home to help make the link between learning the faith and living the faith.
- Talk to your children about their Religious Education classes each week and help them with assignments and prayer/bible verse memorization.
- Support the Religious Education team in the following program expectations.

### **Academic Requirements**

All work assigned by catechists must be completed by the dates assigned. Each grade has assigned prayers and/or Catholic teachings to be memorized and verified by the catechists before the end of the Religious Education year.

### **Attendance/Absence**

Religious Education classes meet on Wednesdays. Grades 1-5 will attend from 4:30-6:30pm on the 1st Wednesday of the month (this includes a parent(s)) and the remaining Wednesdays of the month class time runs 4-5:15pm. Class time for Grades 6-9 is 7-8:30pm. Students should not arrive earlier than 10 minutes before class begins. We have minimal supervision available before this time.

Calendars of the Grade divisions are enclosed in this mailing.

Students are expected to arrive on time and to stay for the length of the class. A parent must call Angie Katz, 715-723-7108 ext 103, to report any late arrivals, early departures or absences. Your phone call should be received before class begins, preferably by 3:00pm. Please leave a voicemail message if necessary.

## **Participation and Behavior**

Active classroom participation by students is expected.

All students are expected to follow any specific classroom rules set by their catechist. Cell phones will be collected at the start of class and placed in a basket within the classroom. Students may use them to call a parent or if indicated by a catechist. To decrease distractions, students should expect that cell phone use will NOT occur during class.

The consequences of misbehavior will be as follows:

- catechist addresses the situation and asks for cooperation
- student will be asked to leave the classroom and go to the office
- parents will be called; Fr. Burish may become involved

## **Grade Level Promotion**

Promotion to the next grade level depends upon consistent class attendance/participation and adequate comprehension of current grade level subject matter.

## **Arrival & Dismissal/Safety Concerns**

Students in Grades 1-5 must be brought to and picked up from their classroom by a parent or other designated family member or adult. All children should be very cautious when leaving the building and crossing the streets around the parish property. Please be aware that the surrounding streets can become quite congested on Wednesdays.

Parents must stop at the Religious Education office first if they wish to pick up their child before the end of class time.

## **Textbook Policy**

Grades 1-5: If the textbook or activity book is misplaced, there will be a \$20.00 fee to replace each book lost.

## **Tuition**

Please see the enclosed Family Registration Fee sheet. Fees are payable to Notre Dame Parish and need to be paid at the time of registration. Please note: No child will be denied the opportunity to attend Religious Education classes due to an inability to pay tuition. For tuition assistance, please contact Angie Katz or Fr. Burish.

## **Accidents**

All accidents that occur on the Parish grounds should be reported to Angie Katz.

## **Inclement Weather**

Rule of thumb: If the Chippewa Falls schools are closed for the day or close school early, we will not have Religious Education classes. If you have questions, please call or email the Religious Education office.

**Parish Staff**

Pastor: Fr. Jesse Burish 715-723-7108 ext. 102  
Administrative Assistant: Erin Hill 715-723-7108 ext. 101  
Director of Music: Sue Van de Loo 715-723-7108 ext. 104  
Coordinator of Religious Education: Angie Katz 715-723-7108 ext. 103

- Email: [religiouseducation@thechurchofnotredame.org](mailto:religiouseducation@thechurchofnotredame.org)  
- Website: [www.thechurchofnotredame.org](http://www.thechurchofnotredame.org)

**2019-2020 Catechists**

1st Grade Anne Dachel  
2nd Grade Tina Simmons  
3rd Grade Michelle Farrow  
4th Grade Rennee Zimmerman  
5th Grade Tim Tozer  
  
6th Grade Val Rislove/Stephanie Staber  
6th Grade (Male catechist and classroom helper needed)  
7th Grade Mya Strader (classroom helper needed)  
7th Grade Pam Hehl (classroom helper needed)  
8th Grade Carrie Anders/Margaret Zander  
8th Grade (Catechist and classroom helper needed)  
9th Grade John Suilmann (classroom helper needed)  
9th Grade (Catechist and classroom helper needed)

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**Notre Dame Mass Times:**

- Monday: 8am; Wednesday-Saturday: 8am
- Saturday: 4:30pm, Sunday: 8am, 10am, and 7pm

**Confessions:**

Daily immediately following the 8am Mass and before each weekend Mass beginning 45 minutes before Mass time.