



CO-CATHEDRAL OF
ST. ROBERT BELLARMINE
Roman Catholic Diocese of Trenton

Religious Education Parent Handbook

2021 - 2022 Catechetical Year

A NOTE TO OUR FAMILIES

Dear Parents/Guardians:

When you baptized your child you made a promise before God and the Church community of faith that you would be your child's first teacher in the Catholic faith. The People of God prayed for you that you would also be their best teacher. We truly appreciate that you have invited us to partner with and support you in this most important responsibility. Such trust cannot be overstated. Our Religious Education program is designed to provide an orderly, progressive introduction to and understanding of the basic truths of our Catholic faith. No instructional program, whether in-person or online, can demonstrate the full beauty of our faith through once-a-week sessions or workbooks. Much more is needed to form your child as a true disciple of Jesus Christ. A child gains the fullest appreciation of our faith by first witnessing at home the great gift that faith is. The way you live out your own Christian commitment as a family will have the most profound effect on your child's growth as a disciple of Jesus Christ. All Catholic families are called to be "domestic churches."

Living out our Catholic identity as individuals and families takes commitment and persistence. It is our obligation and responsibility to:

- **Worship at Sunday Mass as a family.** The Mass is the Source and Summit of our faith. Its value and importance cannot be overstated;
- **Give priority to your child's Religious Education.** Your child's formation in the Catholic faith should not be merely one option among many other activities in which your child participates;
- **Participate in your child's virtual lessons and in-person program activities.** Your child will benefit from your active presence and you will also grow in your personal faith as you learn together;
- **Pray for and with your child that s/he will know God's love personally;**
- **Assure that your child logs in to virtual sessions on time,** is prepared for the lesson and has completed any assignments given between sessions;
- **Encourage your child's participation** (and join them!) in planned special liturgies, grade-level retreats and other activities in the life of the parish;
- **Model respect, cooperation and Christian compassion** for your child in their interactions with parish staff, catechists and volunteers who have given themselves in service to your child;
- **Make you family's faith practice intergenerational.** Explore ways to involve grandparents, aunts, uncles in your child's formation to demonstrate our connection to the faith across time and space.
- **Volunteer to assist with our program,** when conditions once again fully allow, so that your child will see your faith in action.

Please read the rest of this handbook for important information about your child's Religious Education. Keep it handy along with the program calendar for ready reference during the catechetical year. For your convenience, a copy of this handbook is posted to our website.

God bless,



Mark Russoniello
Director of Religious Education

Religious Education Office Hours

Office hours are Monday through Thursday, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Please call the office (732-642-7429 Ext.122 or 134) to schedule any necessary appointments. Voicemail is available for your convenience to leave a message. You may also contact the Religious Education Office by email: MRussoniello@strobert.cc or FNielsen@strobert.cc

Registration/Enrollment

Child registration each year is completed online. The instructions and link to access Online Registration can be found on the Religious Education page of our website: <http://www.strobert.cc/religious-education>

Students are to be re-enrolled every year. Re-enrollment is not automatic. In order to enroll your child in Religious Education:

- Families must be registered parishioners of Saint Robert Bellarmine.
- All families who enroll their children in Religious Education are expected to *participate fully in the liturgical, sacramental and community life of the parish, most importantly the celebration of Mass on weekends and Holy Days of Obligation.*
- Students transferring into our program are required to provide a Letter of Transfer from their previous program along with a copy of their Baptismal Certificate and any other sacramental records.
- Because Faith Formation is a practice which builds from year to year, a student who has missed a grade level in formation will be required to make up that year before being permitted to register in the next grade level.
- We do not accept requests for specific class assignments with friends or catechists. This policy applies to in-person learning as well as Google Classroom.

Parish Boundaries/Enrollment in Religious Education

All parishes in the Diocese of Trenton have designated geographic boundaries that mark their areas of parochial and pastoral service and administration. Saint Robert Bellarmine gives **first priority** for enrollment in our Religious Education program to those families who live within our parish boundaries, and are registered, active members of our parish faith community.

Requests to register children in the Saint Robert Bellarmine Religious Education program from families who live outside the parish boundaries can only be considered on **a limited, case-by-case basis**, given the constraints of physical space and catechetical resources. Most important, there must be a **sufficient number of catechist-volunteers** to serve the number of enrolled children in a safe and orderly learning environment. As with all Religious Education families, those who live outside our official boundaries seeking to

transfer their children into our Religious Education program are expected to ***first become registered parishioners and participate fully in the liturgical, sacramental and community life of the parish, most importantly the celebration of Mass on weekends and Holy Days of Obligation.***

The introduction of new models of catechesis such as a summer program, family catechesis, and hybrid remote/in-person instruction may enable the Religious Education program to accommodate an increased number of out-of-boundary enrollments.

Communications

The Religious Education Office communicates with families primarily through email. It is vitally important that you keep your parish contact information up to date, especially email addresses. ***The email of record with the parish should be current and one you access regularly.*** Important notices and information are also frequently posted on the parish website, and sent using push notifications through the **free** St. Robert Bellarmine app, available from both the **Apple Store** and **Google Play**.

Program Learning Environment

Religious Education will continue to be conducted primarily in a remote learning/at home environment monitored by regular online learner assessments. This remote learning environment will be supported in an on-going way by pre-recorded unit overviews presented by catechists. Periodically, we will provide links to other videos designed to enhance at-home learning and support parents' efforts to connect their children with lessons of the faith. As conditions allow, Saint Robert's Religious Education will re-introduce in-person learning opportunities.

The basal curriculum for Grades 1-7 is ***Finding God***, published by Loyola Press. Eighth Grade formation and Sacramental preparation for Confirmation relies on ***The Search*** from the Augustine Institute and ***DecisionPoint*** published by Dynamic Catholic.

Beginning in Catechetical Year 2021-2022, **in-person learning will take the form of grade-level liturgies and retreats, as well as family and intergenerational catechetical instruction.** The program plan as we move forward is to make less frequent use of an in-person classroom model of catechesis. Our hope is to provide a greater degree of lived-faith experiences and instruction to support families in claiming their identity as "domestic churches", reflecting broader changes in the field of catechesis in the Church.

Parental Involvement

It cannot be said too often that education, especially Religious Education, is most effective when parents are actively involved. Contemporary research supports the long-known understanding that a young person's relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church depends strongly on the example set by parents and other trusted adults. Therefore, we offer some specific ways in which parents can fulfill their obligation as the first and most important educators of their children in matters of faith and values.

- Worship with your children as a family at Mass on weekends. Participate fully in the life of our Parish Community.

- Pray together as a family whenever possible outside of Mass: at meals, before and after school, games or activities, while traveling, at night, etc.
- Introduce Catholic devotional practices as a regular part of your family's daily routine, such as recitation of the Rosary, lighting candles for special prayer intentions or praying together novena prayers to particular Saints (for example: Saint Joseph, Saint Jude, Saint Anthony, Padre Pio, Saint Therese of Lisieux)
- Read often together from Sacred Scripture stories or the lives of the Saints.
- Regularly review/discuss with your children the lessons, online assessments and in-person learning activities that are part of the program.
- Share with your child your own memories of Sacramental, liturgical or faith-community celebrations (Baptisms, First Holy Communion, family weddings, anniversary blessings, festivals, etc.), as well as recollections of answered prayers.
- Make certain that all lessons are completed and material understood by your child, and online assessments are submitted on time. Parents should never complete work or assessments for their children!
- Follow the Religious Education news in the Sunday Parish Bulletin. Information regarding the program is communicated through the bulletin, at Mass during Pulpit Announcements, via email and push notifications through the SRB App.
- Make sure your child knows and understands all the program requirements and her/his responsibilities for her/his own formation in the faith (no matter how young).

Volunteering

Continued health concerns involving large group gatherings, as well as developments in the field of catechesis, have reduced the opportunity and need for parental volunteers at this time. This has both advantages and disadvantages. Certainly, moving to a remote-learning environment has led to increased opportunity for parents to take the lead in their child's faith formation. At the same time, the reduction of in-person learning has adversely effected the occasions for parents and children to connect and interact with the parish's Religious Education staff and volunteers, and the larger parish faith community.

As conditions continue to develop, open up and return to a "new normal" it is our expectation that more opportunities to gather as a community of faith outside of Mass will be offered. Once that happens, parent volunteers will be needed and welcomed. In the meantime, parents should take every opportunity to actively demonstrate their personal faith to their child, and seek paths of Christian service that can involve the entire family. Saint Robert Bellarmine has a mature and robust ministry of outreach that can support you in connecting with such service opportunities.

Course of Study

The texts chosen by Saint Robert Bellarmine Religious Education provide your child with a catechesis grounded firmly in Sacred Scripture, Tradition, Liturgy, and the teaching authority of the Church (formally call the ***Magisterium***). The parish has selected the ***Finding God*** curriculum published by Loyola Press. This curriculum offers a wide assortment of online learning resources as well as robust learning assessment tools.

Our Program

The scope and sequence of this series provides a complete and accurate Vatican II Theology distributed across the grades K-7*. It is “spiraled” so that each year the young person’s catechetical learning is both deepened and expanded. It supports learning and increased understanding in five critical areas identified by the Catholic Church:

- **Knowledge of the faith** (the teaching of Jesus and the Tradition/doctrine of the Church)
- **Participation in the celebration of the Mysteries of the faith** (the Sacraments and Liturgy)
- **Formation for life in Christ** (making choices grounded in Christian virtues and morality)
- **Learning to pray** (communal, devotional, formal and personal prayer)
- **Living as Christian community** (worshiping together, sharing the faith, and serving others)

Parents and learners may access the full scope and sequence of the curriculum at the Loyola press Finding God website:

<https://s3.us-east-1.amazonaws.com/lpress-craft-flippingbooks/FG2021/fg2021-scope-and-sequence/index.html>

Each year of the program provides young people with:

Multimedia Content: Dynamically engage children, parents, catechists, and teachers with animations, narrated videos, interactive activities, and audio clips.

Abundant Scripture: Using embedded QR codes throughout the text, children access audio files of Bible passages from the Old and New Testaments that correspond to the lesson material and underscore the essential Scriptural foundation of all Catholic teaching.

Special sections on the foundations of the Catholic faith: A glossary of terms, lessons on major feasts and seasons in the liturgical year, and *Prayers and Practices of Our Faith* all give children a deeper understanding of the Catholic faith.

Reflection and Prayer: Guided reflections help children form a rich prayer life, which is essential for authentic discipleship. *Finding God* helps children integrate traditional prayer into daily life. A child’s personal prayer **must** be supported by the example of parents and older siblings in order to take firm root and grow.

Multimodal Learning: Exploring *Faith through Art* prints, spoken word tracks, music, and videos serve a variety of learning styles to stimulate learners’ religious imaginations so they learn to think more critically, and are better prepared to proclaim and live their faith.

Additional family resources: Practical resources such as family e-newsletters, an at-home edition, and prayer books support at-home faith life.

Family Catechesis: Program provides parishes with the tools to help parents connect with their own faith while they participate in the catechesis of their children at home.

Flipped Classroom Model: All grades offer not only as a traditional model with enhanced multimedia, but also in a Flipped Classroom format to allow for ease of implementation whether you are teaching in person, hybrid, or remote!

Connection to Generations of Believers: Each grade curriculum offers an appreciation both for the lives of the saints and of Catholics today who are valiantly trying to transform our world.

Inspiration and Support for Missionary Discipleship: The Program supports a religious literacy that will support an enthusiasm for growing up Catholic in today's world.

**NOTE: Eighth Graders preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation receive instruction and formation using other texts and resources tailored to young adolescents learning to assume greater personal responsibility for their own relationship with Jesus, in His Church, and among the People of God.*

Participation/Learning Objectives

Catechesis involves an individual being formed, informed and transformed! The fullness and beauty of the Catholic faith cannot be adequately captured and communicated in any catechetical curriculum, no matter how well prepared. Being formed as a disciple of Jesus Christ is most perfectly accomplished by participating in and being transformed by a loving relationship with our Lord. At the same time, each of us needs to grow in our knowledge of Jesus' teaching and the role of the Church in His continuing mission of salvation. That is where the grade-level learning objectives of Religious Education come into play.

Whether remote or in-person, full participation in all Religious Education sessions and activities is required for a child to move on to the next grade level. The curriculum is made up of 25 individual chapters in 5 units. **The expectation is that learners will complete one chapter of the program curriculum each week, in order.** Required online assessments will be made accessible beginning on the Sunday of the week that each chapter is expected to be completed (please consult program calendar). Assessments will remain accessible for completion until the conclusion of the catechetical year in the event a child is unable to complete the assessment in the scheduled week.

All assessments should be completed and submitted by the conclusion of the catechetical year. **A minimum of 20 of the Chapter assessments must be completed and submitted for a child to advance to the next grade level.** Families will be notified by email prior to the conclusion of the catechetical year if a child has work that needs to be completed, and given sufficient time to submit any missing work before year-end. **For the**

2021-2022 Catechetical Year, the final day to submit completed Chapter Assessments is Saturday, April 9, 2022.

Family Catechesis

As our community resumes a more typical and regular practice of our faith, our parish Religious Education program will begin to move toward **family-centered, in-person instruction and formation**. Too often parents feel that they lack sufficient knowledge and understanding of Catholic doctrine and teaching to fully transmit its beauty to their children. While this really isn't true in most cases (you'd be surprised how much you know), we understand that speaking freely and openly about your personal faith experience can sometimes be uncomfortable and intimidating, even within families. In general, the Church hasn't helped in this regard by often making catechesis seem like the exclusive responsibility of parish Religious Education programs.

The **family catechesis** model seeks to bring the faith community together with families across generations so we can all grow together in our relationship with Jesus Christ. Catechetical instruction presented to parents and families helps deepen your faith, strengthen your understanding of the teaching of the Church, and increase your confidence in sharing your love of God and God's Church with your children and others. **Grade-level family retreats and Masses** will offer more opportunities for you to pray together as a family, learn how to make conversation with God a more routine part of your daily life, and help you recognize more clearly the **holiness** present even in the most ordinary family activities. In this way, our whole life – as individuals and as a family – becomes a **sacramental witness** to the world (a visible sign of God's always-everywhere Presence and Love).

Child Safety/Safe Environment Curriculum

Beginning in 2014 the **Diocese of Trenton** required that all parish Religious Education programs include a **child safety/safe environment curriculum**. This directive is in conformance with the revised Dallas Charter implemented by the Catholic Bishops of the United States. The implementation of this curriculum provides a proactive response to concerns regarding the safety of vulnerable persons of any age while participating in Church activities. The curriculum used at Saint Robert Bellarmine is published by Loyola Press and supplements our basal catechetical curriculum. The curriculum, **Growing with God: Safe and Sacred** for grades 1-6, includes the following units:

- *God Creates Us*: Building confidence, growing spiritually and physically
- *Boundaries*: Abuse prevention
- *Friendship and Bullying*: Building and maintaining healthy relationships
- *Digital Discipleship*: Safe and healthy habits in online environments
- *My Sacred Self*: Catholic family living

The Catholic Church recognizes that the moral education of children and the teaching of values grounded in the Catholic faith are the unique and particular competence of parents. Saint Robert's is committed to supporting families in living their calling to be "domestic church". To do this, the parish will provide links to grade-appropriate videos and distribute worksheets for each lesson in the **Growing with God** curriculum. Parents should **view**

the lesson videos with their children, **discuss** the material presented as a family, and **complete** the worksheets with their children. Completed worksheets must be submitted to the Religious Education Office by the end of each catechetical year. Online lesson reviews are also available for parents to reinforce the material with their children at the end of each lesson.

Prayers for Each Grade Level

The children will be expected to memorize specific prayers* and have a good knowledge of other prayers** at each grade level. **Please pray with** and encourage your child to say these prayers frequently in order to support and reinforce learning. All the prayers are found in your child's textbook in the section entitled "*Prayers and Practices of Our Faith*".

First Grade

- ‡ Sign of the Cross*
- ‡ Our Father*
- ‡ Hail Mary*
- ‡ Glory Be to the Father*
- ‡ Grace Before Meals*

Second Grade

- ‡ Same as Grade 1, plus
- ‡ Great Commandment*
- ‡ Act of Contrition*
- ‡ Prayer to the Holy Spirit**

Third Grade

- ‡ Same as Grades 1 and 2, plus
- ‡ Apostle's Creed**
- ‡ Seven Sacraments*

Fourth Grade

- ‡ Same as Grades 1, 2 and 3, plus
- ‡ 10 Commandments*
- ‡ Corporal Works of Mercy**
- ‡ Spiritual Works of Mercy**

Fifth Grade

- ‡ Same as Grades 1, 2, 3 and 4, plus
- ‡ Beatitudes**
- ‡ Rosary**
- ‡ Hail Holy Queen**

Sixth Grade

- ‡ Same as Grades 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, plus
- ‡ Stations of the Cross**
- ‡ Nicene Creed*
- ‡ A Vocation Prayer**
- ‡ Precepts of the Church**

‡ **Seventh Grade**

- ‡ Review of all Prayers on Each Grade Level

‡ **Eighth Grade**

- ‡ Review of all Prayers on Each Grade Level

Sacraments

Sacrament of First Penance

At Saint Robert Bellarmine, children prepare for the celebration of the Sacrament of **First Penance** in the 2nd grade. The dates of celebration are communicated each year in a separate sacramental calendar. **We invite and strongly encourage parents and family members of our First Penitents to also make a personal confession during the celebration.** Not only does it provide an outstanding example to your child; it also allows you to relieve yourself of the burdens of personal sin.

All Catholics are required to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation at least once each year prior to the Liturgical Season of Easter. Please consult the parish website or bulletin for days and times the Sacrament is available: <http://www.strobert.cc/bulletins>

Sacrament of First Eucharist

Second Graders celebrate the Sacrament of **First Eucharist** at regularly scheduled weekend Masses during the Easter Season. Children are assigned a First Communion Mass based on their class designation. **For a child to be properly and fully prepared to celebrate the Sacraments of First Penance and First Eucharist as a Second Grader, he/she must have completed religious instruction and formation in both First and Second Grade.** The dates of celebration are communicated each year in a separate sacramental calendar.

Parents are required to attend a mandatory Parent Meeting. Please consult the Religious Education Sacramental Calendar for dates and times.

Sacrament of Confirmation

Preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation at St. Robert Bellarmine is not just a matter of attending a requisite number of Religion classes or completing service hours. It is a unique and powerful journey of formation and initiation into the Mysteries of Christ and His Church that begins at candidates' Baptism, develops gradually and continuously throughout their time in Religious Education, and involves them ever more deeply in the

life of the Parish on many different levels. To be fully prepared to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation in Eighth Grade, it is necessary for a young person to have attended formal Religious Education every year.

A child should not withdraw from Religious Education after First Communion and return later for Confirmation. Such an action causes the child to have missed essential instruction in the doctrine, teaching and prayer of the Church. Therefore, a plan to make up any missed instruction will be developed for a young person seeking to celebrate Confirmation who has not had full and proper formation. This plan must be completed to assure the young person has sufficient knowledge and understanding of the commitments and obligations of the faith being undertaken through conferral of the Sacrament.

Parents of children in Sacramental years (2 & 8) must attend a mandatory Parent Meeting to receive important preparatory materials. Please see the Religious Education Calendar for the dates and times of these meetings.

To fully and properly prepare for Confirmation, a Candidate must:

- ✚ participate in and complete Religious Education instructional sessions
- ✚ complete Sacramental formation
- ✚ attend and participate at weekly Mass
- ✚ attend the **Covenant Mass** with their families
- ✚ attend the **Confirmation Retreat**
- ✚ Perform a minimum of five (5) hours of community service

Confirmation is scheduled for Tuesday, May 10, 2022 (times TBA).

Cell Phone Policy

The use of cell phones is not permitted during class time. This includes during any remote instruction.

In the event of an emergency during an in-person session, parents will be notified by the Religious Education Office about child pick-up.

During in-person learning, cell phones are to be turned off and placed in a basket on the teacher's desk at the beginning of class. Catechists will be provided with a plastic bag labeled for each child's phone for easy identification. Cell phones will be returned to students at dismissal.

Any student discovered using a cell phone during a learning session will have it confiscated and will be returned only to a parent.

When entering the building, students are asked to turn off all electronic devices, and remove hats, earbuds, or headphones.

Discipline

Saint Robert Religious Education requires all children and parents to sign a **Code of Conduct** acknowledging the responsibility to behave appropriately during catechetical sessions, whether they are conducted through in-person or in a remote learning environment (Google Classroom, Zoom, etc.). It is our expectation that children will behave respectfully toward their catechists and each other in the spirit of Christian charity. Children who are persistently unable to abide by program rules of behavior will be asked to leave the catechetical session and complete all necessary work on their own.

We recognize that coming to in-person Religious Education sessions after a full day of school can present difficulties for some children. Our catechists work hard to interact with the children in an engaging, respectful and compassionate manner, cognizant that they may be tired and easily distracted. At the same time, the children are expected to come to class willing and eager to learn. Chronic and persistent misbehavior often requires a more formal disciplinary intervention to address and correct issues. This intervention may include, but is not limited to, a meeting with the parent, child, catechist and Director of Religious Education. If behavior issues cannot be resolved and the child's conduct does not improve, an alternative plan for providing catechetical instruction to the child will be developed to assure on-going formation until such time that the student has demonstrated a willingness to control his/her behavior in the classroom.

Arrival & Dismissal Procedures for In-person Catechesis

The following information applies only when in-person instruction or family catechesis activities take place. We ask your cooperation in maintaining a safe and orderly parking lot for all our parish families.

General Procedures:

Incoming traffic will use the North entrance, by the front parking area/parish office.

Exiting traffic will use the South exit, by Michael J. Tighe Park.

Both lanes at the entrance and exit should be used to expedite safe traffic flow. When exiting via the South exit, use the right lane for right only turns onto Georgia Rd. toward Elton-Adelphia Rd. and the left lane to make left only turns toward Michael J. Tighe Park.

A. ARRIVAL:

Park in a **designated parking area only** and walk your child to the building through the Parish Hall entrance.

The Parish Hall doors from the back parking lot will be opened 15 minutes prior to the start of each in-person session (see below for specific times); **Doors will be locked five (5) minutes after the beginning of classes.** Doors will not be reopened until ten (10) minutes prior to the beginning of dismissal.

Sessions that begin at 4:15: Parish Hall doors will open at 4:00PM and remain open until 4:20. *Doors will then be locked.* They will be reopened at 5:10 in preparation for dismissal which begins at 5:20(1st) 5:25 (3rd and 4th) and 5:30(5th and 6th). Wednesday, 2nd Grade dismissal will be at 5:30.

Sessions that begin at 5:45: Parish Hall doors will be open at 5:30 and remain open until 5:50. *Doors will then be locked.* They will be reopened at 6:40 in preparation for dismissal which begins at 6:50 (1st) 6:55 (3rd and 4th) and 7PM (5th and 6th). Wednesday, 7th Grade dismissal will be at 7PM.

Sessions that begin at 11:00AM: Parish Hall doors will open at 10:45AM and remain open until 11:05. *Doors will then be locked.* They will be reopened at 2:10PM in preparation for dismissal which will be at 2:30PM.

Late arrivals: Parents are required to escort their children into the building from the front parking lot and sign them in at the Religious Education Office. Children who arrive late will be escorted to their classroom by program staff or volunteer. Parents are not permitted to enter the classroom wing while a session is in progress.

B. DISMISSAL:

Park in a **designated parking area** and walk to the building to pick-up your child.

Children are dismissed directly from their classrooms (when classrooms are used for in-person learning). The **Dismissal Procedure** is as follows:

1. Parents enter the building through the Parking Lot doors and line up outside of their child's classroom 5 minutes before the end of class.
2. Children will be dismissed by the teacher directly to their parents.
3. Parents/children exit the building from the classroom wing (***please refer to diagram at the end of this section***):
 - Classrooms 101 – 109 should exit through the door at the beginning of the hall (adjacent to the restrooms);
 - Classrooms 110 -117 should exit through the doors at the end of the hall;
 - **NO ONE should enter through those doors. They are EXIT ONLY.**

In the event an early dismissal of a child is necessary, a parent must come to the Religious Ed. Office to sign their child out. As the Parish Hall doors will be locked, park in the front parking lot and enter the building through the front doors of the Parish Center. Religious Education Office staff/volunteer will call down to the classroom for the child to be dismissed from the R E office. The classroom wing will be closed to parents while classes are in session.

C. Other procedures/requirements for in-person learning:

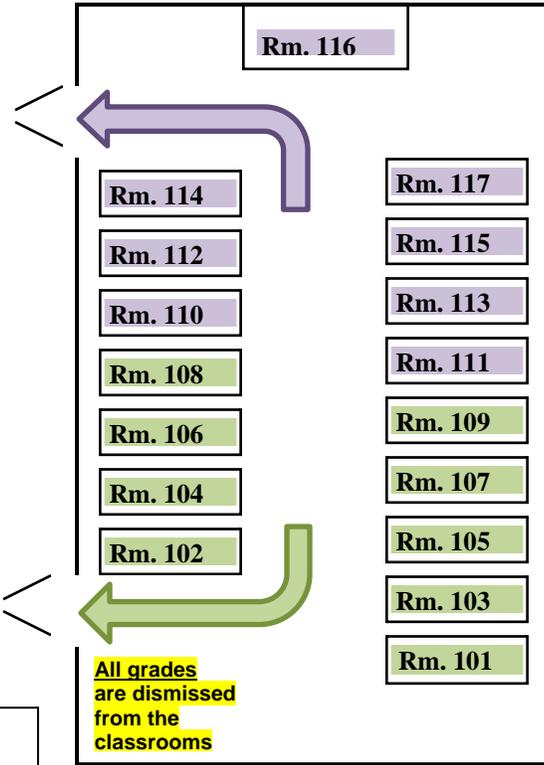
1. **No child** is permitted to leave the building without a parent. ***Your child's safety is our first priority!***
2. Classes will begin and end on time.
3. **Children are NOT to enter their classrooms before the catechist. Doors are not opened to children until 5 minutes prior to class. Only teachers (and their own children) are allowed in the building before the start of any in-person session/activity.**
4. Hallway Monitors are present during all sessions to ensure that all children safely reach their class.
5. **No parents are allowed in the building during class time without prior notification to the Religious Education Office. For the safety of all our children, anyone entering the building MUST sign in at the Religious Education office.**
6. Children are expected to respect our classrooms and Church property. Children are asked to be careful of displays, projects, teacher materials, etc.

7. Children are responsible for bringing their books to class each week. If a child loses his/her book, a second book will be provided *at an additional cost*. The family will be billed accordingly. **Please place your child's name and class information on the inside front cover of book in the space designated.**
8. Fire and Lock-Down Drills are required by NJ State law twice a year. Drills will be scheduled and conducted during class time. *Please alert the Religious Education Office if your child experiences any anxiety during such emergency drills so alternate arrangements may be made.*
9. **NO food or beverage is permitted in the classrooms unless a child has specific medical need and a doctor's note has been provided to the Religious Education Office.**
10. Smoking/vaping is prohibited by NJ State law anywhere on parish property.

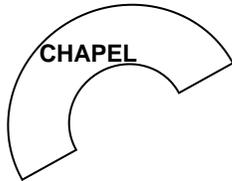
Dismissal Diagram for In-person Classroom Sessions

No Standing / Parking at Any Time

Back Parking Lot:
Parents are to park their cars and enter the building via the Parish Hall entrance to drop off and pick up their children.



Georgia Road



Foyer

- Rm. 100
-
- Religious Ed Office
- Office
- Parish Office

Small Parking Lot
Office Parking ONLY!

