

St. Joseph's Religious Education/Youth Ministry

PROGRAM EXPECTATIONS

Thank you for registering in the St. Joseph Religious Education Program. We look forward to assisting in the ongoing religious formation of your child. As Catholic parents, you are the first and foremost teachers of the faith. This is your primary role, one which you committed to when your child was baptized.

As you commit fully to the religious education program of Saint Joseph parish, we promise to work diligently with you to provide the necessary foundation for your child's faith formation.

To assist you in your commitment, we remind you of the necessary components of our parish sacramental life and our religious education program, which will deepen your child's life in Jesus Christ:

- ❖ **WEEKLY CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST-** The Eucharist is the source and the summit of our Catholic faith and belief. We invite all to come to the table!
The children are being taught the importance of honoring the Third Commandment, keeping holy the Lord's Day. The culmination of this celebration is in receiving Holy Communion within the community of believers.
- ❖ **CONFESSION- Participation in frequent celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation.** By receiving the forgiveness and mercy of God we participate in the saving action of Christ who died for our sins.
- ❖ **ATTENDANCE AT CLASS** Attendance is very important. In order for your child to receive the full benefit of religious education, regular attendance is necessary. If your child will be absent, please call the office. If there are more than **3 unexcused** absences, your child's progress in formation will need to be evaluated.
- ❖ **PLEASE BE ON TIME-** Class will begin with **OPENING PRAYER**. The **OPENING PRAYER** is not just a gathering, but our coming together as the Body of Christ to pray in thanksgiving for our lives and also for the needs of the parish community of faith and of our world. Late walk-ins and interruptions do not promote the sacredness of prayer time.
- ❖ **FULL PARTICIPATION IN CLASS-** Withdrawal from class before it is over is very disruptive to other students and to the teacher, but it also deprives your child of much needed instruction. Please do not excuse your child before class is over.
- ❖ **RESTROOM-** Please have your child use the restroom **before** coming to class.