

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION GUIDELINES

PICKUP/DROPOFF POLICY

Children must be accompanied into the building to their classrooms. Parents **must** pick up their children at their classroom at dismissal. The parish will provide supervision beginning 10 minutes before classes begin. Children dropped off more than 10 minutes before class must be supervised by their parents. Children will not be dismissed to anyone other than their parents, guardian, or authorized person.

Students not picked up within 15 minutes of dismissal will be assessed a \$10.00 fee for every 15 minutes thereafter. The money will be donated to the poor. In an emergency, contact the Religious Education office to make other arrangements. Thank you for your cooperation.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

It is the task of the parent/guardian to see that students complete the entire course of religious education throughout the high school years and to hold it as a priority over extra curricular activities. Experience has proven that coaches and activity directors will excuse students for religious instruction when parents so request.

Please call the Religious Education Office if your child is unable to attend class due to illness or school

FEEES FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Grades K3-8 \$50 per child
Maximum of \$140 per family

Fees are due no later than the second week of class!

NO child will be denied Religious Education if the family is not financially able to pay.

A copy of child's Baptismal Certificate is required upon registration.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE PRE-K TO 8TH GRADE SESSIONS

This program is for registered families of Prince of Peace Parish. You must be registered to participate.

Preschool: Classes for 3, 4, & 5 year olds are held in the School Building during 10:00 am Mass on Sunday morning. Children must be of age before September 1st of the respective year to enroll.

Grades 1-7 Afternoon session meets in the school building each Wednesday 4:30-5:45pm.

Grades 1-7 and 8th Confirmation Prep Evening session meets in the school building Wed 6:30-7:45pm.

Note: Confirmation classes for 8th graders are held only on Wednesdays during the evening session.

DISCIPLINE POLICY

Students are to act with respect toward one another and toward all Staff members and volunteers. We expect this respect to be upheld in the classroom.

Students who violate any norms of good behavior will be given a warning at the first offense. In cases where the behavior shows no improvement, parents will be notified. If the behavior continues, families must contact the Director to discuss options before the child can return to class. Please remember this is a volunteer program and inappropriate behavior cannot be tolerated.

WEATHER POLICY

We follow Greenville County schools. When they are closed or have early dismissal because of weather, Religious Education classes will be cancelled. If necessary, classes will be made up on the indicated snow days.

NO SOLICITATION POLICY

We request that children not bring school or extra curricular fund raisers to Religious Education classes.

These and all other RE policies will be discussed at the first Open House for parents Wednesday, September 7, 2011.

THE SACRAMENTS

SACRAMENTAL CELEBRATIONS

First Confession: March 2012 (TBA)

First Holy Communion: Saturday, April 28, 2012 at the 5:30pm Vigil Mass. A reception follows.

Confirmation: Spring date TBA (8th graders)

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Sacramental preparation is an outgrowth of a child's regular religious instruction, and in order to receive sacramental preparation, a child must be attending Religious Education classes regularly, and have been in a Religious Education program for one year prior to the reception of a Sacrament. **A copy of child's Baptismal Certificate is required upon registration.**

FIRST CONFESSION AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

These sacraments will be celebrated in second grade. All students, third grade and above, who have not received the sacraments of Confession and First Holy Communion will be enrolled in a sacramental class upon request. A retreat in which both the child and a parent attend is required. Please remember that Confession must precede the reception of First Holy Communion. Children can expect some testing for basic knowledge of the faith and of this sacrament.

CONFIRMATION

To enroll in Confirmation preparation, each child must have completed a 7th grade Religious Education class. The program begins in September and meets Wednesday evenings from 6:30-7:45 pm. Retreat attendance is also required. Parent and sponsor involvement will be necessary for some sessions. Children can expect some testing over basic knowledge of the faith and of this sacrament.



ADULT MEETINGS FOR PARENTS OF STUDENTS PREPARING FOR SACRAMENTS

Parent Meetings are required by the Diocese for the Sacraments of First Confession, First Holy Communion and Confirmation as well as for Retreat planning for First Holy Communion and Confirmation. **Both parents** must attend the parent meetings.

ADMINISTRATION

Our parish Religious Education program operates under the direction of Lara Pennell (DRE) and Stephanie Lasitter (Director of Youth), along with a team of volunteer teachers. We look forward to growing together in our love of the Lord and of our Catholic faith.

Our choirs operate under the direction of Alan Reed and the Music Department. If you have any questions please contact the designated director.

We are here to help...

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First Confession, VBS
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Alan Reed

Director of Music
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Always be prepared to make a defense to any one who calls you to account for the hope that is in you, yet do it with gentleness and reverence. 1 Peter 3:15

VIRTUS

VIRTUS' "Protecting God's Children" is a program that attempts to help children learn relationship boundaries and how to protect themselves from sexual abuse. All parents or legal guardians must fill out an Opt In/Out form for their children to participate in or to be exempt from this program.

CHILDREN'S CHOIRS

Primary Choir – Boys and girls in K5 and 1st grade learn and play in weekly Wednesday afternoon sessions. Songs and games are suited to their age level to build basic skills for singing and musicianship to assist in faith formation. The choir sings about once a month, Oct. through Eastertide.

Junior Choir – Alan Reed, Director

Boys and girls in 2nd – 5th grade learn and grow in their faith in weekly Wednesday afternoon rehearsals. Singing skills and musicianship progress through the choir year as members work together as a team to build a unified sound in praise of God. The choir sings about once a month, Oct. through Eastertide.

Youth Choir – Alan Reed, Director

Youth in grades 6-12 gather weekly to rehearse in preparation for singing at Mass. The choir had an awesome sound last year and we want to build the group even larger this fall. If you enjoy singing, come and see how inspiring singing with other youth can be!



SPECIAL NEEDS

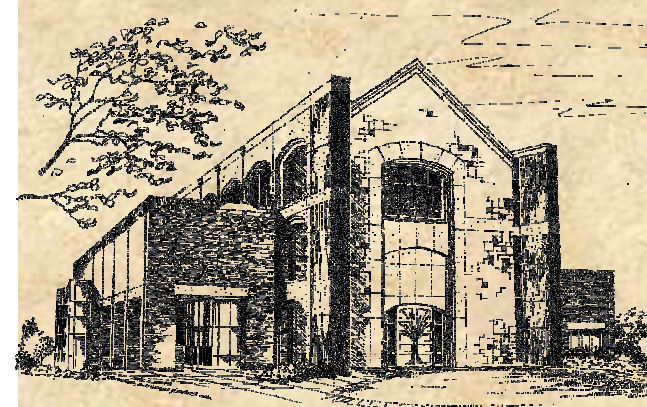
This program is offered to our children with special needs. A certified teacher will be using the "Rose Kennedy" Curriculum for six weeks in the fall and six weeks in the spring. This program follows the regular Religious Education Schedule



PRINCE OF PEACE CATHOLIC CHURCH

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

2011-2012



PARENTS: PRIMARY EDUCATORS

True religious education begins with a parent's love of the Catholic faith which is best passed on from the parent to the child. We ask each family to participate in helping provide an active Religious education program for our children. Each family is expected to attend Mass weekly, to strive to create a Catholic homelife, and to volunteer for the Religious Education program by being a teacher, aide, monitor or retreat facilitator. More information on volunteer opportunities will be available at the Open House. Your involvement is very important to the success of our program.

OPEN HOUSE/CLASS DATES

Open House Grades 1-8 only

September 7, 2011 4:30pm and 6:30pm PAC (Gym)

First RE Class Date-September 14, 2011

Sunday School (K3—K5) –September 11, 2011