

Infant Jesus Parish



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

Phone: 856 - 845 - 5251 ext. 106

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

Summer Class: Level 3 - 8

First 2 weeks in August 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

Sunday: 8:30 - 9:45 AM Level 1-6

Monday: 4:30 - 5:45 PM Level 1-8

Thursday: 6:15 - 7:30 PM Level 7-8



AND

Guardians



(PEACE AND ALL GOOD)

As parents you are the most important educators of your child/children, a grand task which you share with God and with the Church/Parish. The Religious Education Program has been established to support you in the faith formation of your child/children. Please feel free to call the office with your questions and suggestions. We will do our best to make you feel welcome and well served.

This **Religious Education Communication Folder** contains a lot of information and it is considered the "Family Catechesis and Communication" folder. Please check **The Communication Log** every week, sign the log page and the check lists. Your signature verifies that you have checked the folder, have helped your child with the home assignments and have reviewed prayers and other important awareness topics your child needs to master.

Enclosed in the folder is a **letter to the students (page 3)**, calling them to responsibility. Please read this letter and the "**family pledge**" with your child or children, at the beginning of the year and any time you feel there is a need to remind them of its content.

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This year we will continue to use the “Christ In Us” Series from Sadlier for Levels 1-6. For level 7 we will continue dividing the students into three groups for the following topics; Bible Study, Confirmation and Decision Point. For level 8 the program is designed to help students prepare for Confirmation through class and community activities and we use the textbook “Decision Point” from Dynamic Catholic, Be Bold. Be Catholic.

PLEASE MAKE SURE TO READ AND SIGN THE FAMILY PLEDGE (TAB 1). THANK YOU!

Each student also receives a textbook. The students in level 7 also receive a Bible, accompanying text, which they will also use in level 8 as well. When a student loses material, it may be replaced by purchasing it at the Religious Education Office and the cost of each item is: Textbook - \$25.00, Bible - \$15.00, Bible Accompanying Text - \$15.00

DEAR PARENTS/GUARDIANS,

The following pages list the policies of our Religious Education Program. Your enthusiasm and attentiveness to these rules help tremendously to the success of our program.

Lastly, our Catechists and Volunteers are a blessing from GOD. Without them, we could not accomplish the task set before us. Please treat them with regard, gratitude, courtesy, and invite your child to do the same. Being human like the rest of us, they are not perfect but their noble task and generous heart place them on a higher level. Let us thank and praise God for the gift of them.

In Christ, Sister Vilma Butron, FMIJ

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STUDENT' RELIGIOUS EDUCATION HANDBOOK



WORSHIP

As Catholics, we are required to attend Mass on Sundays. All of our teaching is in vain if what we teach is not reinforced in the home. Periodically, we will have our Religious Education Students participate in a special way at Sunday Mass. We will also have some traditional devotions (rosary, stations of the cross, etc.) throughout the year. We encourage your participation.

ATTENDANCE

*All students are expected to attend every class. Absences are only considered excused when the child is ill. Any other absences need to be approved by Sister Vilma Butron.

*When you know that your child is going to be absent, please advise the Religious Education Office by phone or email to inform before the absence.

*When the child has been absent, please cover the lesson with your child at home, and send an absence note to the catechist next time your child comes to class.

*A child missing 3 classes runs the serious risk of repeating the year. This will be our standard procedure.

THE USE OF FACILITIES (RESTROOM)

Please encourage your children to use the restroom before coming to class. We have limited amount of time and constant request to go to the restroom is disrupting to the flow of the class.

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DISMISSAL

Monday Afternoon Classes; Parents are requested to drop children off in the gym and to physically pick them up after class in the GYM.

Sunday Morning Classes, parents should drop off and pick up children at the main door of the school.

Evening Classes (Monday and Thursday) children are to be dropped off in the gym and will be dismissed through the main door of the school.

Note: If your child is walking to and from class, this must be in writing and on file in the RE Office.

EMERGENCY CLOSINGS

In case of inclement weather, generally speaking if local public schools are closed the Religious Education Classes will be cancelled. For further information check the parish website or call the Religious Education Office. 856-845-5251 ext. 106.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM

The Camden Diocese has conducted the New Jersey CAP (Child Assault Prevention Project) training for the people in our diocese who work and have regular contact with young people. These training sessions are a vitally important component to our commitment to do everything possible to raise awareness about abuse and to prevent future abuse from occurring.

FIRE REGULATIONS

A fire drill and lockdown drill will be conducted during the year. Catechists will review procedures with the class during the first two weeks of class. Directions are posted in each classroom. During a fire drill, quiet and order need to be maintained so that all may leave the building safely.

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SUPPLIES

- * Copybook for note taking.
- * Several sharpened pencils or working pens for older grades.

HOMEWORK is indispensable. Through it, the children review what was learned in class. The homework assignments provide an opportunity for enrichment especially when parents take time to sit with the children and go over the homework. Please check the folder each week to see what is being taught and what is expected from home. Experience has shown that faithfulness to the home assignment provides an excellent opportunity for "Family Faith Sharing and Growth." The way that our religious education program works is that parents need to be 100% involved in the formation of their children.

EVALUATIONS: Progress reports are distributed twice a year. Mid-year report cards are to be signed by parent and returned to the Catechist. Year-end report card is to be kept by parent. A copy is placed in each child's records maintained in Religious Education Office. Evaluations are based on written and oral testing, homework assignments, and class participation. With your help, and God's blessing we're sure your child will have a successful year.

Please Note: If your child has some learning difficulty, please inform the teacher and the RE office. If necessary, testing can be given orally and away from the class to accommodate special situations.

SERVICE

Service is required of students in grades 6, 7 and 8 preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Students in grade 6 and 7 are required to give a minimum of 12 hours of service each year to the church or community. A total of 24 hours, each service project can be counted for no more than 5 hours of service. Suggestions for service projects will be communicated to students and parents during scheduled parents' meeting.

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Parents are also encouraged to give service by assisting as classroom aides, hall monitors, child care, catechists, substitutes or office assistants. Please contact the Religious Education Office if you are able to help out.

WEB PAGE: It is up and running, Janet and I will do our best to keep it up to date. Please refer to it for the latest information. All Religious Education forms and notifications will be available on site for downloading; www.theInfantJesusParish.org

EMAIL: The email address of the Religious Education Office is reledakaccd@comcast.net. The RE Office has set up an email system to send home information in a timely way to families and volunteers. Your most current email address needs to be on file at all times. Anyone who does not have email access please let us know so that we can send you hard copy information about specific events.

REGISTRATION: Registration for each school year will begin in March of each year. Registration fees will be posted with forms at that time. Classes are filled on the first come first served basis. **Please note:** Just because a child was in a certain class the year before, this does not guarantee the same class the following year. **Please do not let the fees hold you back from registering.** Families with financial constraints must contact the Religious Education Office to work out a payment arrangement.

TRANSFERS: If you plan to move, please notify the office to obtain a copy of your child's records. Please provide the following: * name and grade of child * last date your child will attend class
* name and address of new parish

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DEAR STUDENTS

Welcome to our parish Religious Education Program. Another year is beginning and we are excited to begin a new year of growing in our knowledge of Jesus who loves us so much. There is much to be learned in the months ahead. You know that everything presented to you this year has been planned to meet your spiritual need. Your success in all of it depends on your effort and on your commitment. It is important that you do your best.

DURING CLASS TIME:

- *Please listen to your catechist/teacher, and put forth your best manners.
- *Raise your hand when you want to say something or answer a question.
- *Be attentive and follow directions, and respect your classmates and their belongings.
- *Show an attitude of kindness and service towards others.
- *You are given a folder and a textbook. Please keep them neat. Put your name on the cover of each, but don't scribble on or mark them with inappropriate drawings or words. Bring your folder and book to each class. This is your responsibility regardless of your grade and age.

AT HOME:

- *Please take time to study prayers and memorize them as scheduled, and to do your homework. Your parents will be glad to help, if you remind them.
- *Make sure to come prepared for every class.
- *Take time to pray with your family, and on your own.
- *Do some acts of kindness for family members, or neighbors who may need some help.

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IF YOU ARE ABSENT:

*Please remember to make up lesson at home, and to bring a note from your parents to the next class, written and signed by them. Give it to your catechist.

USE OF CELLPHONE OR ANY ELECTRONIC DEVICE:

If your parents find it necessary for you to have a cell phone you are hereby informed that it is to be turned off when entering the school premises and be turned on only once you are out of the building. Using any electronic device without proper permission anywhere in the building will result in it being removed from you and turned into the Religious Education Office.

BULLYING is very unkind behavior, and there is never a good reason for it. Any unkind word, gesture, look, touch, or comment in front of or behind someone constitutes “bullying” and it is always sinful because it directly hurts another person. We need to remember that **GOD** lives in each human being, and **JESUS** said: “What you do to the least of my brothers and sisters you do to me.” Bullying is never acceptable in our Religious Education environment.

Standards have been set for you and for all who are part of Religious Education Program. If all of us follow them, we will become who **GOD** wants us to be in order to live like and be more like **JESUS**.

DEAR STUDENTS,

I am going to be present at the sessions most of the time and available to speak with you should you want to do so. Feel free, and know that I am here for you to assist you as you grow in your relationship with **JESUS**. I have plenty of love and hugs to give away to everybody.

God bless you! Sister Vilma Butron, FMJ

Always Remember...

1. You are important.
2. You are special!



God
LOVES
you