

**PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION
PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK
2019-2020**



**ALL SAINTS PARISH
3205 E. GRAND
WICHITA, KS 67218**

August 18, 2019

Dear Parents,

Welcome to All Saints' Religious Education Program for the 2019-2020 school year. We are looking forward to a successful and exciting year!

Our goal each year is to provide the children of our parish family with an enriching religious education experience ... one they can carry forward and share with others in their daily lives.

In this handbook are some guidelines designed to make this a rewarding year for you, as parents, for us as educators and most importantly, for your children. Your support is vital to the success of this program and IT IS APPRECIATED!

We can work together to share our faith with the future of our Church ... our kids! God Bless You!

Sandy Nettleton
Director of Religious Education
682-1415

Terrisa Compton
PSR Coordinator
518-4642 (after 5:00 p.m.)

MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of Catechesis at All Saints Parish is to assist and motivate parents in fulfilling the promises they made at their child's baptism. Therefore, the mission of the Parish School of Religion is to provide programs that enable the family to journey in faith by coming to a deeper understanding of the message of Christ, by experiencing a Christian Community and by guiding them to worship, to pray, and to serve others.

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION GUIDELINES FOR PARENTS

To facilitate the PSR program more effectively, we ask your cooperation in following these guidelines.

CLASS TIME

Classes will be held in All Saints School each Sunday morning from 10:30-11:45. Children should not be dropped off before 10:20. Please pick up your child on time (no later than noon) so that our catechists/teachers are not left waiting. **The church, school, catechists/teachers and all representatives of All Saints PSR program are not responsible for the children before 10:20 or after noon.**

REGULAR ATTENDANCE IS IMPORTANT

Regular attendance to PSR is essential for your child's faith development. Catechist's lesson plans build on previous week's material making attendance important for your child's understanding of the concepts presented for the year. Regular attendance is imperative for those students in sacramental classes. If your child is sick or you have a family emergency, please call your child's catechist.

ENCOURAGE YOUR CHILD TO SHARE THEIR CLASSROOM EXPERIENCE WITH YOU

Make time to discuss with your children what they did in PSR class. A typical answer is "nothing". Try hard to draw your child's answer past "nothing" and talk about "something" that happened. Ask them to share with you one thing they learned in class they didn't know before. Share your religious experiences with your children.

REGULAR ATTENDANCE AT MASS, SPECIAL SERVICES AND CELEBRATIONS

Religious education is incomplete without practicing one's faith. Take your child to Mass on Sunday and Holy Days. Attend special liturgical celebrations with your child. It is important you take your child to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation on a regular basis.

COMMUNICATION

You are encouraged to call your child's catechist/teacher should any problems arise or should you have any questions or suggestions. The catechists/teachers, likewise, are encouraged to call upon you for assistance. Please be open to communication. This is the best deterrent to small problems becoming big ones.

PRAYERS

Prayers will be said and taught in the classroom. However, students will learn them if they are said and practiced at home. We ask the parents to take active participation in this with their children. In the back of this book you will find some of the common prayers of the Church.

COURTESY

PSR catechists/teachers and staff are volunteers. Let them know how much they are appreciated. Respect for teachers, students, staff and school/church property is expected.

DISCIPLINE

The PSR classroom setting should be treated as any other place of learning. Respect for property, each other and adults in charge is expected at all times. Disrespect, bad language and physical violence will not be tolerated.

Disruptive students who do not respond to the correction of the catechist/teacher will be dismissed from the classroom and sent to the Coordinator's office. If necessary, the Coordinator will arrange a meeting with the parent(s).

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Ordinarily, children receive the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion in Grade 2. If your child has advanced to a higher-grade level without the reception of these sacraments and/or BAPTISM, please notify the PSR Coordinator. **ALL FIRST COMMUNICANTS MUST HAVE A COPY OF THEIR BAPTISM CERTIFICATE BY THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS.**

It is vital that once your child has received their First Communion for them to continue with their religious formation. The Sacrament of Confirmation is typically conferred in the 10th grade. However, if a student has not received regular religious instruction, especially in the 9th grade, **they will not be allowed to receive this Sacrament.**

COST

The cost of enrollment is \$25.00 (or \$35.00 for First Communion and Sacramental Preparation). This fee will be applied towards textbooks, workbooks, and miscellaneous supplies for the students. A late fee of \$5.00 will be charged for any student not enrolled during registration. This registration fee does not cover all of the expenses incurred during the year, so we ask for your donations and help as needed.

SAFETY ISSUES

It is the responsibility of All Saints PSR program to provide a safe and hazard free learning environment for your children. Safety rules must be in place to ensure the best course of action is taken in the event of an emergency.

Teachers will be instructed how to evacuate the building, should that become necessary. An initial fire drill will be conducted within the first month of class. Periodic drills will be held throughout the year.

We ask that when you pick up your child, you park with your car facing the church. That way everyone will be leaving in the same direction. Please **DO NOT** park in front of the school or any other place that is not a designated parking area.

WEB SITE

All Saints Parish has a Web site available for public use. You can access the web site @ www.allsaintswichita.com. You will find information about the Religious Education program, including yearly calendar, student handbook, registration forms and volunteer information.

THE THREE CATHOLIC R's PROGRAM

Reverence, Respect and Responsibility

Parents are the first and best educators of their children. When their child is baptized, parents express a commitment to raise that child in “the way of faith.” No other agency, not even the Church, can replace parents in forming their children to be disciples of Jesus Christ and good citizens of this world.

In the Diocese of Wichita, this formation of disciples calls attention to stewardship as a way of life. Stewardship causes us to acknowledge that everything good comes from God; it makes us aware that we must place our gifts at the service of one another. It obliges parents to educate children in the faith and form them for Christian living.

Good stewardship also obliges the Church to prepare its members to proclaim the Good News and translate this proclamation into action. In offering families a Catholic education, whether Catholic schools, Parish School of Religion or Adult Education, we strive to make our environment truly Catholic – a place where parents, catechists and students work together in a spirit of faith, stewardship and respect.

Through the implementation of The Three Catholic R's program (Reverence, Respect and Responsibility) in our Parish School of Religion each of us becomes aware of our roles as parents, catechists and student. This is reinforced through the covenants presented and signed at the start of the year. The contracts emphasize showing respect, reverence and responsibility whether a parent, catechist or student, at home or while attending Parish School of Religion.

All parishioners have an obligation to contribute their time, talent and treasure to fulfill the parish's educational mission, but this responsibility falls in a special way on the child's first educators, the parents. Parents are obligated to be examples of good stewards for their children by being committed to participating in the stewardship of time, talent and treasure, attend faithfully at the Sunday Liturgy and further their religious education through the attendance of Adult Education Sessions.

