

Parent Handbook St. Peter Religious Education

Welcome to the Religious Education program at St. Peter Congregation. It is our privilege to help you share our Catholic faith with your children.

ATTENDANCE

Regardless of grade, if your child must miss class please call **262-644-8083 ext. 28** and leave a message. This extension is for student absences only.

High School and Middle School

- Two excused absences are permitted per year.
- Perfect attendance awards are given at the end of the year for any student who completes ALL Class work and FIATs
- Make up assignments are available upon request. Any student missing more than two classes should ask for make-up work.

Elementary School:

If your student has missed a large number of classes (more than four), please contact your DRE to get make up work for the classes missed. It is important that your child learn the material covered so that he/she can advance to the next grade level.

SACRAMENTS

To get the most out of the Religious Education experience, the child should be enrolled in each year of the program. This is particularly important as they are preparing to receive the sacraments. First Reconciliation and First Eucharist are traditionally celebrated in the second grade; Confirmation is traditionally celebrated in the eleventh grade.

Students are to attend Religious Education for two years prior to receiving First Reconciliation and First Eucharist (first and second grade). Preparation for Confirmation begins in ninth grade; attendance during ninth, tenth and eleventh grade is expected for Confirmation candidates. Please contact the DRE if you are in need of “make-up” formation due to past attendance issues..

SERVICE PROJECTS

As part of their Religious Education, all students learn to share their time, talent and treasures with others. This takes the form of service projects. For the students in preschool-grade 5, students will participate in service projects as a group – this could be with their own class, all students in their grade level, or an even larger group – most projects take place during Advent and/or Lent. Particularly regarding money or other collections, students participate as they are able. It is not our aim to impose a hardship on any family. One penny or one can of veggies given with the right intention is far more valuable than many dollars or objects given without thought.

MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to attending faith formation classes, each student must complete **6 FIATs**
- *at least **one from each category**; and the remaining **three are their choice**.*

Categories Include: Parish Service Project
Community Service Project
Retreat Experience

See class schedules for more details.

- **F.I.A.T. - Faith In Action Testimonial** - This includes our Retreat and Service Project requirements for middle and high school students
- Growing in faith extends beyond classroom learning. We grow as disciples of Jesus Christ when we experience Faith in Action through Catholic Retreats, Service Opportunities, and Faith-Based Experiences or Activities.
- We are all called to a personal relationship with our Lord and God. Retreats help us to stretch and grow in our relationship with God, to experience His Love in new and exciting ways. Service Projects give us the opportunity to respond to God's Love for us by sharing that love in service to others.
- The FIAT program introduces young people to a variety of faith-based experiences and then allows them to choose opportunities that best suit their interests.

A listing of all FIAT opportunities and permission forms will be available in your family folder, in the Christian Formation office and online at stpeterslinger.org.

BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS

Behavioral expectations are based on Jesus command to Love as He loves. There are only a few rules but they should be followed in the spirit of Christian Charity:

1. When the teacher speaks, everyone else is quiet.
2. When the teacher calls on a student, everyone else is quiet.
3. I will raise my hand when I want to speak.
4. I will stay in my seat unless instructed to move.
5. I will keep my hands, feet and comments to myself.
6. I will always be respectful of other students, adults and myself.
7. Church is a sacred space and I will treat it as such.

Behavior Issues are dealt with on a "case by case" basis between the DRE and Parent.

CELL PHONE POLICY

Students are asked to turn off their cell phones during class. Any student found using their cell phone during class will be asked to place it on the teacher's desk or in the basket in the middle of the table until the end of class.

DRESS CODE

Students are expected to dress appropriately for class:

- If you would not wear it to Church, do not wear it to class.
- Dress correctly for the weather conditions
- No short shorts or short skirts, ripped pants, tank tops, low cut shirts, or low riding pants
- No shirts with alcohol or drug references, or with questionable messages or pictures. No hats may be worn during class

PRESCRIPTION AND NON-PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION

Please schedule the use of regular medications around the class schedule. In the particular circumstance where a medication must be taken during class time, contact the DRE in advance to make arrangements. Non-prescription medications will not be dispensed.

SAFETY CONCERNS

- Parents are always welcome to observe their child's class after coming downstairs to the lower Religious Education office for a nametag. Be sure your child knows who they are going home with. This is especially important for families with custodial arrangements.
- First aid kits are available throughout the buildings. If a student is injured or ill they have the option to call for an early ride home.
- Per Archdiocesan regulations, we offer a class regarding safe environment to all students. **This is not sex education.** We instruct the students about how to stay safe and healthy because they are God's children.

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

Whenever classes are cancelled, we will send out an email indicating the cancellation. A good rule of thumb: If Slinger Schools are canceled, we will cancel. Please watch your email when the weather is bad. Information will be broadcast on WISN TV (Channel 12) and on the following radio stations: WTMJ (620 am), WKTJ (94.5 fm), WTKM (1540 am and 104.9 fm), WBKV (1470 am) and WBWI (92.5 fm). **Never** endanger yourself or your child by coming to class in bad weather. No student will "get in trouble" for missing class under these circumstances. If in doubt, choose safety!

CONTACT INFORMATION

The following are the correct numbers to call in case of questions. **PLEASE** do not call the pastor or the parish office!

DRE K-5 & Pastoral Associate:	Paul Rogers	262-644-8083 ext. 14
Youth Ministry/DRE 6-11:	Eileen Belongea	262-644-8083 ext. 17
Religious Education Secretary:	Jackie Schuh	262-644-8083 ext. 29
Student Attendance:		262-644-8083 ext. 28