



St. Joseph Catholic Church

Office of Religious Education 228 E. Hendricks St. Shelbyville, IN 46176-2129

Phone: (317) 398-0530 Fax: (317) 392-7820

Dear REP parents,

The catechists and I are looking forward to sharing another faith filled year with your child/children. Please review the list below:

- **Service hours are required** of all REP students in grades 6 through 10. Service hours are a great way for your child to learn the art of stewardship. All service hour sheets must be **turned in within 30 days of service date**. They can't be signed by a parent. I have enclosed a form for you; additional forms are available from the REP teacher or on our website stjosephshelby.org. Service hour requirements are mandatory and are as follows:
6th=5 hours, 7th=10 hours, 8th=15 hours, 9th=20 hours, and 10th is 30 hours, which must be 15 hrs=church and 15 hrs=community.
- **Attendance will be monitored** and recorded on your child's permanent record. Homework may be given and expected to be turned in as requested. Class participation and your child's understanding of the material each week will be monitored. Report cards will be issued so you are aware of your child's progress in their class. If a child is registered but does not attend regularly, they will not be allowed to progress to the next grade.
- **A student that is entering Confirmation class (10th grade)**, must have completed religious education classes for grades 7, 8, and 9 before being allowed to enter this important year of sacramental preparation. Classes cannot be missed.
- Attendance and student preparation in 1st and 9th grade will be key to them entering the next year of sacramental preparation. Therefore 1st grade will be considered Pre-Communion class and 9th grade will be considered Pre-Confirmation class. Consistency of attendance is mandatory and student cannot miss 2 classes in a row.
- **Your registration fee must be paid before your child receives their books.** If any family has a reason they find it difficult to pay, please contact the REP office immediately and discuss with me, arrangements can be made. Please don't let an inability to pay, keep your child from receiving their religious education.
- Weekly Mass attendance is extremely important to solidify your child's religious education.

Encourage your child to become active in our Junior and Senior High Youth Groups. We invite them to ask a friend to come with them. Check out the bulletin for activities. We feel this environment of faith and fun a stepping stone to enhancing your child's Catholic identity. Your child may be active in another youth group such as Mt. Pisgah, Shelbyville Community, etc. The indoctrination they receive is subtle and precise, encourage them to participate in their own church's youth program and preserve their Catholic identity. This gives them a solid feeling of parish community and family. The youth programming will not succeed unless the parents show support.

We feel very privileged in being a part of your child's religious education. You as parents are the foundation for their religious growth and we thank you for letting us have a small part in this exciting part of their development.

Please know that your feedback is always welcome and any concerns or questions you have are important to us. The REP office is open Monday through Friday 8:00am-2:00pm and the door is always open, we'd love to see you!

Blessings,
Pam McClure
Administrator of Religious Education/Youth Minister
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