



St. Paul Catholic Chapel

# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION HANDBOOK

2022-2023

Dear Parents,

Together with Fr. Osman and the catechists, I want to welcome you to the 2022-2023 Religious Education program. Our goal is to encourage your child to make a personal, knowledgeable, and heartfelt choice to become a lifelong disciple of Jesus! We strive to create a program of lifelong religious education that promotes faith growth in families and participation in Church life.

We believe that parents are their children's first and most important teachers. Your own practice of the faith is very important to your child's growth. You are giving a good example to your children, as well as growing in your own faith, by:

- attending weekly Mass,
- regularly receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation,
- praying together daily,
- speaking frequently about your faith at home,
- attending special social activities at the parish, and
- volunteering for service in our parish and community.

We understand that being a parent in today's society can have many challenges such as: consumerism, technology, and the media. Our religious education program is based upon scripture, prayer, tradition, service, and community. We are dedicated to supporting you in developing your child's understanding of the Catholic faith and providing opportunities to share your knowledge with them. We ask that you **reinforce** the lessons presented in each class with follow-up conversations at home and **review** the material provided by the catechist. Your interest in their lessons is a great witness to the importance of their spiritual growth. Also, please make time to not only attend weekly Mass but also attend special Church activities with your child. We want them to know that they are part of a vibrant St. Paul Chapel community!

Religious education classes are held **following 9:00 a.m. Mass with dismissal at 11:15 a.m.**

- The priest will dismiss the students and catechists with a blessing just prior to the end of Mass.
- Students are asked to go directly to the classroom area where they will be provided with a snack prior to the start of their class.



We ask that you are supportive of your child's catechist and the religious education program. Please remember that each catechist is a volunteer who is committed to generously sharing their passion for our faith with your child.

**Regular attendance is encouraged and expected.** If your child must miss a class, please contact the catechist to obtain the missed content/materials. We trust that we will have your child's full participation and respect. We are blessed to be able to offer religious instruction without charging fees for textbooks and materials at this time.

Please note, Sacramental preparation is an integral part of the religious education program. The Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist are prepared for in the second grade. The Sacrament of Confirmation is received after completion of the Confirmation I and II classes. Parents whose children will be receiving a sacrament this year will need to attend special meetings as part of the preparations. We will have a parent meeting for **ALL parents** on the first day of classes, September 11th.

It is important to check out the religious education section on the St. Paul Chapel website (<https://v.gd/SPCReligiousEd>) for information about the program throughout the year. Also, please be sure that we have up-to-date contact information for you.

Please complete both sides of the enclosed registration form for your family. It is important that we have up-to-date information for you and your child(ren). Also enclosed is a volunteer form. Please consider ways in which you can share your time and talent with the religious education program. Also included is the calendar of religious education dates. Please keep this in a convenient place for your reference. If changes need to be made to the calendar, you will be notified via Flocknote and the St. Paul website.

Finally, we ask for your prayers and support throughout this year. We are here to support you in the development of your child's spiritual journey. Please feel free to contact us if you have questions or concerns.

In gratitude,

*Therese*

Therese Shiffler, Director of Religious Education

[Therese@stpaulcatholicchapel.org](mailto:Therese@stpaulcatholicchapel.org)

260-665-2259

# Religious Education Calendar 2022-2023

Classes meet from 10:00 AM - 11:15 AM

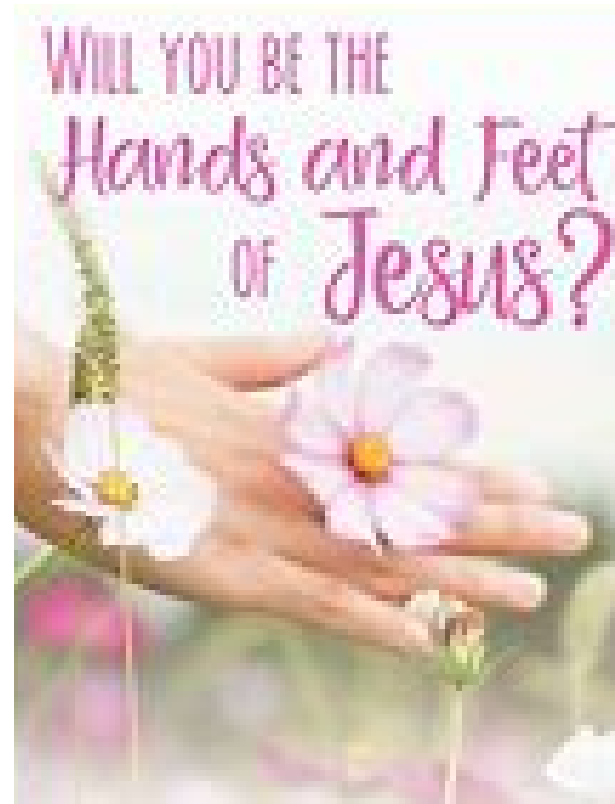
Sept 11	Classes begin Parent meeting following Mass	Feb 12	Regular class
Sept 25	Regular class	Feb 19	Regular class
		Feb 26	Regular class
Oct 9	Regular class	Mar 12	Regular class
Oct 16	Safe Environment Program (required) Fire Drill		tornado drill during class
Oct 23	Regular class	Mar 19	Regular class
		Mar 26	Regular class
Nov 6	Regular class Rite of Commitment for Confirmation	Apr 16	Regular class
Nov 13	Regular class	Apr 23	Regular class
Nov 20	Advent Wreath Making in class	Apr 30	May Crowning (during Mass) FINAL Class
Dec 4	Regular class	May 7	First Holy Communion -2nd grade
Dec 11	Regular class	May 18	Confirmation (@ St. Anthony's)
Jan 15	Regular class	Jun 4	Graduation Mass
Jan 22	Regular class		
Jan 29	Regular class		

*This is the day the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it. Ps. 118:24*

# St Paul Catholic Chapel Religious Education Volunteer Opportunities

Please consider sharing your time and talent with the religious education program.

- \_\_\_\_\_ catechist
- \_\_\_\_\_ substitute catechist
- \_\_\_\_\_ classroom project assistance
- \_\_\_\_\_ bulletin board support
- \_\_\_\_\_ seasonal activities support
- \_\_\_\_\_ general assistance



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact info: \_\_\_\_\_