

September 1, 2017

Dear Parents:

Welcome all new families to Religious Education and welcome back to our continuing families of Religious Education.

St. Rita Parish will continue Religious Education just as it has been for all these many years. The only change will involve where we meet for class sessions. Each Sunday, 1st through 4th grade will meet in the Parish Hall. The 5th & 6th grade will meet in the Conference Room at the Rectory. Religious Education will start on Catechetical Sunday September 17, 2016, at 10:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Except for Family Mass Sundays (the 1st Sunday of the month) when classes are dismissed at 11:00 a.m.

I take this time to refresh everyone on a few of the ongoing procedures for Religious Education requirements for students.

Reconciliation & Communion:

Each student must be a Baptized Catholic. One full year of instruction is required for the reception of the sacraments of Reconciliation and Communion, celebrated in May.

Confirmation:

Students must be Baptized Catholics and have received the sacraments of Reconciliation and Communion. Two (2) full years of instruction are required, all of the 7th grade school year and all of the 8th grade school year. The Confirmation retreat is in October (in a to-be-announced location), followed by the Sacrament of Confirmation, in the beginning of November. What this means, is after the Sacrament of Confirmation has taken place, and each candidate is confirmed, students are to CONTINUE attending classes for the rest of the school year, October-May.

Parents of students that received Confirmation in November, please be reminded that your child is still to be attending Tuesday classes, at St. Rita Rectory, between 4:00 PM and 5:30 PM.

As Fr. Weare explained, he wants students, who are now confirmed, to continue their necessary religious instruction and to be involved in community outreach. This community outreach is also part of the requirement for the reception of Confirmation. During class we will discuss various venues to perform this outreach. Our first service involves creating Christmas stockings for the homeless. The church provides dinners and sleeping accommodations on Monday nights throughout the winter months. Father also wishes the Confirmed students to help participate in the preparation of one dinner for this outreach-TBA. Fr. Weare has the Sacrament of Confirmation early in the year so those

confirmed may live out the gifts they've received through the indelible mark placed on their souls through this sacrament.

Students who have received the sacraments of Reconciliation and Communion are expected to continue their religious education, 3rd-8th grade each year, held on Sundays 10:10 AM-11:30 AM. Instruction for the reception of Confirmation in your child's 8th grade year becomes quite overwhelming if they haven't continued from the 3rd grade through the 8th grade.

It is our hope as catechists that your children get the best information and readiness for all the sacraments they will receive throughout their elementary and junior high school years. Religious education provides your child with a good faith formation base so as they proceed into their high school years they will be better prepared to address the many challenges confronting Christian teenagers today. This is Father's, mine, and our catechists' goal for your children's Catholic Faith Formation.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. I hope any questions about religious education procedures have been answered and everyone is up to date on the requirements.

Should you wish to speak with me about any area regarding religious education concerning your child, such as reception of sacraments or our sponsorship program, you can reach me at my home number, 415-459-4099 and I will return your call. **No child will be denied religious education because of a lack of funds.** Your child's well-being is always foremost in our efforts.

Looking forward to seeing you at religious education classes and about town. May you all be blessed throughout this coming year.

Peace in Christ,

Carol Bennetts, DRE

cc: Rev. Kenneth Weare, Ph.D
Patty Fruchtenicht
Tina Pult
Chris McKeon

Saint Rita Church Religious Education Registration

Child's Name (1): _____

Child's Name (2): _____

Child's Name (3): _____

Child's Name (4): _____

Please complete school and sacrament information on backside for each child

Children Registering for Religious Education:

❖ **Tuition:** \$75 per child, \$50 per each additional child

❖ **Sacramental Fees:**

\$50 per child for First Holy Communion (fee includes retreat materials & pictures)

\$100 per child for Confirmation (fee includes overnight retreat & pictures)

❖ **Baptismal Records:** If your child's baptismal forms are not on file at Saint Rita's Church, please include a copy as part of this registration. Please call to confirm that a copy of the baptismal record is on file for each child.

Please send copies of baptismal records and your check payable to:

**Saint Rita Church-Religious Education
100 Marinda Drive
Fairfax, Ca. 94930**

Parents

Mother's Name _____

Address _____

City, Zip _____

Occupation _____

Religion _____

Home Phone _____ Work _____

Email _____

Father's Name _____

Address (if different) _____

City, Zip _____

Occupation _____

Religion _____

Home Phone _____ Work _____

Email _____

FOR OFFICE USE:

Date _____ Tuition: _____ Baptism Certificate _____

1. Child's Full Name _____ Age _____
School in Attendance _____ Grade _____
City of Birth _____ Date of Birth _____
Date/Church of Baptism _____ / _____
City/St _____
Date/Church of 1st Communion _____ / _____
City/St _____

2. Child's Full Name _____ Age _____
School in Attendance _____ Grade _____
City of Birth _____ Date of Birth _____
Date/Church of Baptism _____ / _____
City/St _____
Date/Church of 1st Communion _____ / _____
City/St _____

3. Child's Full Name _____ Age _____
School in Attendance _____ Grade _____
City of Birth _____ Date of Birth _____
Date/Church of Baptism _____ / _____
City/St _____
Date/Church of 1st Communion _____ / _____
City/St _____

4. Child's Full Name _____ Age _____
School in Attendance _____ Grade _____
City of Birth _____ Date of Birth _____
Date/Church of Baptism _____ / _____
City/St _____
Date/Church of 1st Communion _____ / _____
City/St _____