

All Saints Catholic Parish

Religious Education Handbook

2025-2026

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Class Attendance

- ✚ 1st – 8th grade classes are every Wednesday at St. Joseph School & Church in Boyd starting Sept. 24th from 6:15pm – 7:15pm.
- ✚ 9th and 10th grade classes are every other Wednesday from 6:15pm – 7:15pm.
 - 9th grade starts on Sept. 24th
 - 10th grade starts on Oct. 1st
- ✚ Doors open for students at 6:05pm.
- ✚ For the safety of the students in the school, they will only be permitted to enter and exit through the front door.
- ✚ Absence from class must be reported to Melissa Cochran by a parent or guardian using one of the methods listed above before the start of class.
- ✚ It is the responsibility of the parent to make certain a child is healthy and able to attend religious education. Please do not send your child if they show any signs of a fever, stomach ailments, sore throat, a bad cough, difficulty breathing, headaches etc. If they did not attend school on the day on which CCD is scheduled, they should NOT attend CCD class that evening.
- ✚ **Please encourage your child to use the bathroom before they come home.**
- ✚ A class calendar is distributed at the beginning of the year and is available on the parish website.

Cancellations

If school is cancelled due to a weather event, religious education will also be canceled. Every effort will be made to notify parents via email of a cancellation due to poor weather conditions if they occur after school hours.

Classroom Expectations

- ✚ Upon arrival students must go directly to their classrooms and be on time for class.
- ✚ Students will prepare for class by completing assignments before the start of class.
- ✚ Textbooks and writing instruments used in class should be brought to each session. Nonessential school items should remain at home.
- ✚ No food or drinks are permitted in the buildings. Water bottles are permitted in the classroom.
- ✚ Each student will receive a textbook which they will keep at the end of the year. **Parents will be responsible for the cost of replacing lost textbooks.**
- ✚ At time, the students will be brought to the church for reflection and prayer. Students will conduct themselves with reverence while in church.
- ✚ Students are to dress appropriately and modestly at all times; midriffs must be covered.
- ✚ Cell phones **will not** be allowed during Religious Education class.
- ✚ Students are to respect the property of the church and school as well as that of fellow students.
- ✚ Misbehavior will not be tolerated. If misconduct, parents will be notified. Students who continue to misbehave will be removed from the program.

Second Grade

- ✚ First Reconciliation will be held during Religious Education classes during the season of **Advent**.
- ✚ The First Holy Communion half-day retreat will be held at St. Joseph School the Friday prior to First Holy Communion and is required for all those planning on receiving First Communion. (the retreat typically runs from 8:30am to 12:45pm). More information about the retreat will be provided as First Holy Communion draws near. Public schools must release your child for this event with an excused absence.

Ninth & Tenth Grade

- ✚ The High School program for 9th and 10th grades are preparation classes for the Sacrament of Confirmation.
- ✚ Readiness to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation means that over a two-year period, the confirmandi demonstrates a personal responsibility in practicing the Catholic faith without coercion and force from parents or others.
- ✚ Practicing the Catholic faith means faithful practice of the seven precepts of the Catholic Church. For the youth confirmandi this means:
 - Attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days
 - Receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation regularly
 - Participating in all sacramental preparation classes and formation events
 - Supporting the parish through participation in fundraising events and service
 - Joining with the universal Church for times of penance and prayer
 - Promoting active participation in the Church among peers
- ✚ Those in the 10th grade making immediate preparation for Confirmation must, in addition to the above:
 - Select and research a patron saint and prepare a written report describing the personal significance of the saint to the confirmand's life.
 - Complete a preparation assessment describing how, after two years of preparation, the confirmand has personally practiced the seven precepts of the Church.
 - Only those who have demonstrated personal responsibility in preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation will be presented to the Bishop. Please review the Pledge of Fidelity required by the confirmandi and sponsor before the sacrament is administered.
 - The student needs to demonstrate and identify acts of Christian service.

Parent Expectations

- ✚ Parents are responsible for assisting their children with their Religious Education homework.
- ✚ The *Family Pledge of Fidelity* must be signed annually.
- ✚ Parents must be trained in Safe Environment annually.
- ✚ The Diocese of La Crosse asks that all parents and students in Religious Education receive Safe Environment Training annually.
 - This training is a way to help educate parents about the reality of abuse in today's world and for students to keep themselves safe from possible threats.
 - The **Verification of Parent Safe Environment Training/Student Training Declination** form has a description of the students' training based on their age. It allows a parent to decline the training for their students. Please be sure to read the form closely, fill it out completely and return it.
 - We will be educating the students about Safe Environment in October or November.

- For those who opt out, their students will not be in the classroom during the lesson.
 - Online training is available for parents on the diocesan website at <http://www.dioc.org/safe-Environment/Training.htm>
 - The training form will ask you to check your “position.” Please choose “other” and enter “parent” in the line provided.
- ✠ If you would like more information about the lessons for each grade level, please visit the diocesan website at <https://dioc.org/safe-environment/training/>

Parents of 2nd graders:

In preparation for First Holy Communion, the students will be learning the parts of the Mass in class. Please help your child to recognize and learn the parts of Mass as you attend together. It is most important that you as parents help your children realize that they must prepare well for the two very important Sacraments (First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion) which they will receive.