

Religious Education Milestones A Guide for the Catechists & Parents

“Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And, behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.” ~*Matthew 28: 19-20*

Religious Education Goals in this Parish are to:

1. Complete a child’s initiation into the Catholic Church.
2. Proclaim Christ’s message of Salvation through the Word of God.
3. Connect one’s faith into daily action and prayer.
4. Build a strong Catholic community.
5. Motivate and lead others in mission and action to serve as Jesus did.
6. Emphasize the importance of family worship.
7. Establish a personal relationship with Jesus.
8. Recognize active participation at Mass as the source and summit of our faith.
9. Give thanks through the Eucharist as members of the Body of Christ.
10. Better understand the role of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit
11. Nurture and form consciences in light of Revealed Truth.

All agree in the many benefits of our Catechism classes exploring the fullness of our faith, from prayers to saints, from Scripture to church history. At the core, however, there are certain basics that every Catholic child completing our religious education program should know and retain. As discussed in the Parent Meeting, it is beneficial to have your child not only attend class, but to participate in Confession, Mass & Apostolic Service on a regular basis.

Following is a list comprising what your child should know at each grade level followed by more in depth description of what is covered at each level.

Religious Education Milestones

The following milestones are used to provide catechists and parents a guideline by which to follow their child’s progress in attaining the fundamentals of our Catholic faith.

By the time the child has completed.....

1st Grade, (1st Year of Two-Year Program) student should be familiar with:

- o How to (correctly) make the Sign of the Cross
- o The Hail Mary
- o The Lord’s Prayer (Our Father)

2nd Grade, (2nd Year of Two-Year Program) student is not allowed to miss more than three classes, and student should know the above, plus:

- o The Glory Be
- o Prayer before meals
- o How to say the Act of Contrition How to correctly receive Reconciliation (Confession and Penance)
- o How to correctly receive Communion
- o The major parts of the Mass in some grade level detail

3rd Grade, student should know the above, plus:

- o The Ten Commandments
- o The Apostles Creed
- o The Stations of the Cross

4th Grade, student should know the above, plus:

- o The Seven Sacraments
- o Be able to explain all parts of the Mass
- o How to look up passages in the Bible
- o Introduction to the Rosary

5th Grade, student should know the above, plus:

- o Act of Contrition
- o Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- o Morning Offering
- o Prayer to the Holy Spirit
- o Prayer After Meals

6th Grade, student should know the above, plus:

- o Profession of Faith (Nicene Creed)
- o Apostle's Creed
- o The Magnificat
- o Deeper Understanding of Rosary and How to Say Rosary

7th Grade, student should know the above, plus:

- o The Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy
- o Praying with the Bible
- o Different Forms of Prayer

8th Grade, student should know the above, plus:

- o Conversations with God
- o Daily Examination of Conscience
- o Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

9th and 10th Grade, student should know the above, plus:

- o Knowledge of Scripture and its presence in the Liturgy
- o Communication with Jesus through writing, adoration, and meditation
- o The Fruits of the Holy Spirit
- o The Gifts of the Holy Spirit
- o The lives of saints
- o Benefit of serving others (Apostolic Service)
- o Power of prayer and Rosary
- o Sacrament of Confirmation – completing initiation into Church
- o Fulfilling the Baptismal promise