

Religious Education Policy Sheet 2010-2011

- Attendance** Students are expected to attend **ALL** scheduled classes and sessions.
- Absence** If a student must be absent from class for a serious reason (e.g. illness, injury, family crisis) parents are asked to notify the office in advance if possible. **Note:** Participation in athletic events, extracurricular activities or family outings does **not** constitute an excused absence. If conflicts interfere with your student attending classes, please **call 849-4376**.
- Arrival** Classes begin promptly at 7:00 pm on Wednesdays. Students not in the classroom at that time are tardy. **Note: For safety reasons, students should not loiter outside before classes begin. Parents or drivers should be sure students go directly into school when dropped off.**
- Behavior** If a student engages in disruptive behavior, he/she will be counseled and parents will be contacted if necessary. In extreme cases, students may be expelled for flagrant or repeated misconduct.
- Calendar** A calendar of classes and liturgies for the school year has been mailed to each family and is also available on our website, www.stmaryofthelake.net. In general, the calendar follows that of the Waunakee Public Schools. Please consult the parish bulletin weekly for notices pertaining to Religious Education.
- Cell Phones** IF cell phones, ipods or other electronic devices are brought to class, they **MUST be turned off until class has been dismissed**.
- Conduct** Students are expected to conduct themselves in a dignified and courteous manner in the classroom and in church, respecting catechists, other adults and classmates.
Gum chewing and tobacco products are NOT allowed in school or church.
Skateboards, scooters, and roller blades are NOT permitted in the buildings.
Caps and hats should be removed upon entering the building.
Students should walk, not run in the hallways or when going to church.
- Emergency Closing** Information on class cancellation is broadcast on radio stations Z104, WIBA, WTDY and Q106 FM. **If weather conditions cause the closing of school on a Wednesday, there is automatically NO CLASS that Wednesday evening.**
- Fees** Fees are \$60.00 per student per year, payable the first week of class. Prompt payment of the fee saves billing and postage costs. Sacramental preparation fees are as follows: Grade 2: \$20.00. Confirmation: \$30.00 (payable only once).
- Liturgies** Special liturgies and services are scheduled throughout the year.

Liturgies and sacramental celebrations on Wednesday evenings during the school year are NOT optional, but are part of the regular program for ALL students. Parents and families are strongly encouraged to attend.

Parental Involvement The Church, in the Baptismal rite as well as in the Catechism, underscores the primacy of parents as educators of their children. The role of parents in education is of such importance that it is almost impossible to provide an adequate substitute (CCC, 2221). Parents should participate in the religious education of their children by providing an atmosphere in which prayer and faith sharing are encouraged and practiced regularly.

Prayers Our Catholic heritage includes certain traditional prayers. Students are required to learn the following prayers and elements of the faith at appropriate grade levels: Sign of the Cross, Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be, Act of Contrition, Apostles' Creed, Seven Sacraments, Ten Commandments, Beatitudes, the Theological and Moral Virtues, Precepts of the Church.
Students will be asked to learn prayers or elements of faith during the year. Copies will be sent home. Parents are asked to set aside time to pray daily with their children and help them learn these basics. As part of sacramental preparation, students may be asked to recite prayers to an adult.

Registration Families must be registered parishioners of St. Mary of the Lake. Forms are available at church entrances, in the office and online. **If your child was not baptized at St. Mary of the Lake, please provide his/ her baptismal certificate for our records.**

Sacramental Preparation Preparation for reception of sacraments is as follows:
First Reconciliation and First Eucharist Grade Two
Confirmation Grades 10-11 (2-year program)

Volunteers Our Religious Education program relies heavily on the active involvement of volunteer catechists and assistants. All parents are expected to become involved in the program. As a safety measure anyone (except catechists and staff) who enters the building on Wednesday evenings is asked to **sign in** at the front entrance. Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated.

Please consider giving of your time in whatever way possible.

Our program is as good as its volunteers!!