

CLERMONT CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES

St. Louis

Holy Trinity

St. Ann

St. Philomena



2021-22

Handbook

Pastor

Fr. Martin Bachman

PSR Coordinator

John C. Ivan

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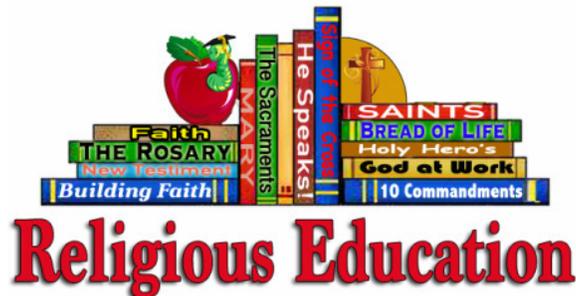
Parish Website

cccatholics.org

Mission Statement

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. - Matthew 28:19-20

It is our mission to assist all persons in their endeavor to increase in knowledge of our Lord. To know our Lord, is to love our Lord. Lifelong faith formation is essential to grow in love and service to our Lord, Jesus Christ. We encourage all families: children, teens, and adults, to grow in knowledge of Jesus and the Holy Catholic Church by participating in a variety of programs designed to deepen their faith.



Time and Place

Sunday Mornings, 9:00 - 10:15 am

September 12, 2021 - May 22, 2022

Preschool - 8th Grade meet in St. Louis School

High School Students will meet in the St. Louis Church Library

The most important aspect of our spirituality as Catholics is the Sunday celebration of the Eucharist (Mass). Parents should enroll their children in a faith formation program that embraces, rather than replaces, Sunday Mass attendance for the entire family.

All students please arrive at the designated entrance in sufficient time to pass through safety and security screening prior to the start of class. See "Safety and Security" on the following page. **Classes begin promptly at 9:00 am.** The building will be open and available for students to begin arriving at 8:45 am.

NO CLASSES on the following dates in observance of the respective holidays:

November 28, 2021 - Thanksgiving

January 2, 2022 - New Year

December 26, 2021 - Christmas

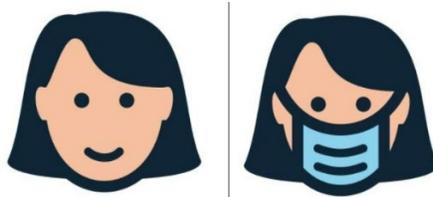
April 17, 2022 - Easter

Safety and Security

The safety of our children is our first priority.

Some procedures instituted last year due to the recent pandemic remain in place, however there are noteworthy changes highlighted below.

- The archdiocese has mandated the use of specific forms by parishes and schools. These forms have been integrated with the PSR registration form. All forms must be completed and signed by the parent/guardian prior to the student entering in the classroom.
- **ONLY students** will be allowed to enter the St. Louis School building.
- Students who are in preschool and kindergarten **ONLY** must be dropped-off and picked-up at the exterior door on the East side of the school building. A PSR catechist or other staff will greet them at the door. Parents/guardians may NOT enter the classroom.
- All students in 1st grade and above must enter and exit the building using the door to the cafeteria on the South side of the school building, our usual entrance. Parents/guardians may NOT enter the cafeteria.
- If you have children in multiple age groups you must use both entrances accordingly.
- Currently, the guidelines we have received do not require students or catechists to wear face coverings (masks). Face coverings shall remain **OPTIONAL** for all participants in the PSR program, unless or until we are advised otherwise by governing authorities.



Mask Optional – You Make the Call

- Currently, we will NOT be checking temperatures as students enter the building. If your child or anyone in your household is experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19 (fever, cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, new loss of taste or smell), or any other contagious illness, please do not bring them to PSR until they are well and not a risk for spreading a virus to others.
- Students are encouraged to apply hand sanitizer upon entering the building and during class as may be needed. We will have hand sanitizer available for use.
- Students shall proceed directly to their assigned classroom. Congregating in the cafeteria or hallway is not permitted and will not be tolerated.

Please notify your child's catechist or the PSR Coordinator in advance if he/she will be absent.

- Attendance will be taken at the beginning of every class.
- **Student Dismissal**
 1. All students must be picked-up at their designated building entrance by a parent/guardian or responsible adult designated in advance by parent/guardian.
 2. Parent/guardian may provide permission for students who are in 5th grade and above to leave the building on their own; see registration form.
- **If your child must leave class early, please notify the catechist prior to the start of class to make necessary arrangements.**
- If you are providing a snack for your child's class, please be aware of other student's allergies, coordinate with the child's catechist, and please **do not send peanuts.**

Child Protection Training

All employees and adult volunteers participating in activities that involve children must be trained and remain in compliance with *SafeParish*, through the safe environment office of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. To be in compliance you must:

- Register on-line at <https://catholicaoc.org/offices/safe-environment>.
- Submit to a background check and complete on-line child protection training.
- Participate in quarterly on-line training.

Participation in the training increases awareness of the signs of child abuse and the steps that can be taken to prevent it. We are grateful to all the adults who have taken the time to become the protective eyes and ears of our parish on behalf of our children.

Catechists

By virtue of their ministry, catechists are called to be role models for the youth they teach. They are called to be well formed in Catholic teaching, dedicated to ongoing formation, and witnesses to the Catholic way of life. To help them fulfill this role, the Archdiocese of Cincinnati requires all catechists to participate in the *Vocare* program for their ongoing religious formation in the Catholic faith. Please pray for all catechists as they strive to fulfill their role according to God's will.

Parents

"Parents are the first and foremost catechists of their children. They catechize informally but powerfully by example and instruction. Their active involvement in the parish, their readiness to seek opportunities to serve others, and their practice of frequent and spontaneous prayer, all make meaningful their professions of belief." - *Sharing the Light of Faith, National Catechetical Directory for Catholics of the United States, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops*

The bishops of the United States tell us that: "Though the influence of peers and of adult catechists is important, ***catechetical programs are not intended to supplant parents as the primary educators of their children.***" PSR is intended to minister to and with parents as they strive to fulfill their important mission of bringing up their children in the Catholic faith.

Adult faith formation opportunities and community-building events are offered by the parish throughout the year. Parents are strongly encouraged to participate in order to develop their own spirituality, to demonstrate to their children the importance they place on growing in wisdom and grace before God, to better equip themselves for their continuing mission as their children's primary catechists, and to enjoy the fellowship of the parish community.

All parents are expected to take an active role in maintaining the quality of our PSR. Parents may do this in a variety of ways including assisting with projects, bringing snacks for their child's class, being a substitute catechist, etc. Many hands make light work, and teamwork helps ensure high quality without overburdening anyone. Any assistance in the classroom must be coordinated with the catechist and PSR Coordinator.

All parents are expected to participate regularly at mass with their children. Faith development is much more than weekly instruction in religious doctrine. While we must be informed of the teachings of the Church, we must also be formed in the likeness of Christ through frequent prayer, reception of the Sacraments, and daily living of the Gospel message.

All parents are expected to give example to their children of their own commitment to the Catholic faith by attending Sunday mass, taking part in adult formation opportunities, demonstrating compassion for others, and being good stewards of God's blessings of time, talent, and treasure.

Children learn best when they can connect their catechesis to their everyday lives. Making Catholic faith part of the daily life and decision making of the family provides parents the vital link between what we do in PSR and how the children actually live their lives, now and in the future.

Children

Regular participation of all registered children is vital to the life of our PSR community. Participation includes taking an active part in prayer and learning, opening heart and mind to the wisdom of the Holy Spirit, and demonstrating respect for everyone.

In order to avoid disruption of prayer, **it is expected that students be in their classrooms by 9:00 am.** Those who are late are asked to enter and take their place in class as quietly as possible.

If a child is ill or cannot attend for a very good reason, parents are asked to notify the catechist or PSR Coordinator in advance and see that any assignments and missed work are completed. We cover a lot of material in each session. Children who miss multiple sessions are likely to fall behind and feel lost. It is very important to us that no child suffer the awkward experience of feeling lost and uncomfortable in class.

Much time and love goes into the preparation of each catechetical experience that we provide. As we would not ignore an invitation to a party, or leave without expressing gratitude, so we must teach our children the proper response to God's invitation to spend time getting to know Him better, and to demonstrate courtesy towards those who facilitate these sessions.

Behavior Policy

Respect, courtesy, and Christian charity are essential elements of our PSR environment. Following are the established basic behavioral guidelines.

Cell phones, electronic devices, and other objects used or misused in a manner disruptive to the class will be confiscated and returned to a parent or guardian at the end of the class.

Catechists will send rude, disrespectful, or disruptive children to the PSR Coordinator for the remainder of the class. The PSR Coordinator will notify the student's parents and the pastor.

Our goal is to work together to protect the dignity of all the members of our PSR community, to help all of our children grow in their ability to treat others with Christian charity and respect, and to maintain an environment conducive to quality Catholic formation.

Sacramental Policy

Parents must provide a copy of the student's baptismal certificate no later than one month prior to celebration of a sacrament.

During the year of a sacramental celebration, parents are expected to attend all parent meetings, and students are expected to attend all student meetings, retreats, etc. listed on the sacramental calendar. These opportunities are provided to prepare whole families for full, active, and conscious participation in the community's sacramental celebration.

Contact information for your catechists:

PSR Coordinator & High School Catechist	John C. Ivan	859-496-2030	jivan01@hotmail.com
Preschool Catechist	Maria Bockhorst	513-404-1565	mrb0116@gmail.com
Kindergarten Catechist	Claire Bockhorst	513-5150241	cbockhorst@twc.com
Grade 1 Catechist	Ruby Garnich	513-560-5475	rubygarnich@yahoo.com
Grade 2 Catechist	Bridget Zurlinden	513-265-3889	bmfraner@gmail.com
Grades 3 & 4 Catechist	Valeri Zimmerman	513-349-9633	valeri.zimmerman@roadrunner.com
Grades 5 & 6 Catechist	Dorie Ivan	937-681-4439	dorisi@roadrunner.com
Grades 7 & 8 Catechist	Stephanie & Matt Bauer	513-501-5259	stephbauer77@gmail.com

