

Shepherd of the Hills Catholic Parish

K-8 Religious Education Handbook

Mission Statement

Shepherd of the Hills Parish Community and parents form a partnership in which the entire community, centered in the Eucharist, shares responsibility for the faith formation of our young people. As partners in this mission, our goal is to draw our young people into a deeper relationship with God through active participation in the life and ministry of the Church.

It is important for all of us to understand that faith development begins in the home and that parents are the primary teachers and models of our faith. Shepherd of the Hills Religious Education Program strives to support, guide, and supplement the faith formation nurtured in the home. Therefore it is expected that all parents and children attend Mass weekly and participate in the parish community of Shepherd of the Hills by sharing their time, talent and treasure.

Contact Information

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Components of our Religious Education Program

Shepherd of the Hills Religious Education Program integrates the following components into each level of a child's faith development:

1. Fundamental Catholic Truths
2. Scripture
3. Prayer and Sacraments
4. Catholic Traditions
5. Catholic moral teaching and Respect for Life
6. Christian Service

K-5 students use the RCL Benziger 'Blest Are We' religion book series. The goal of the elementary program is to support, guide and supplement the faith nurtured in the home.

6-8 students participate in The Edge program. The Edge program is a Catholic middle school youth ministry experience created for early adolescents. It is designed to meet their educational, spiritual, emotional and social needs. The format follows that of the Life Teen program and thus lays the foundation and provides a natural transition into the Life Teen program in grade 9.

Attendance

Classes are held on Wednesday evenings from 6:15–7:30 PM at Shepherd of the Hills. Since we only have limited number of hours of actual instruction time, it is important that students attend all classes. Please call the Religious Education Office by 6:00 PM the night of class to register an absence. Voice Mail is available for messages.

Fees

<u>Grade</u>	<u>SOTH</u>	<u>Nonmembers</u>
Grade School (gr. K,1,3,4,5)	\$65.00	\$130.00
Grade School (gr. 2)	\$75.00	\$140.00
The Edge (gr. 6-8)	\$70.00	\$135.00
Life Teen (gr. 9 & 10)	\$75.00	\$140.00
Life Teen (gr. 11)	\$165.00	\$230.00

- Fees for second grade include \$10.00 for Reconciliation and Eucharist materials.
- Fees for grades 6-8 include \$5.00 for Bibles.
- Fees for grades 9 and 10 include \$10.00 for the Afternoons of Reflection.
- Fees for grade 11 include \$100.00 for the Confirmation retreat.

The maximum fee for Shepherd of the Hills Parish Members, excluding the additional fees for Reconciliation, Eucharist, Bibles, Confirmation, etc. is \$200.00.

A \$25.00 late fee will be assessed on registrations returned after the due date.

Registration

Families must register each year. New families should please contact the Religious Education Office.

Student Drop Off

Religious Education students should be dropped off at the school (south east) entrance. Students should not be dropped off before 6:10 PM, as there is no supervision. No other doors should be used for drop off.

Dismissal/Student Pick Up

Religious Education students will be dismissed from the school (south east) entrance. We ask that parents or a designated adult pick up their younger children at these doors and escort them safely through the parking lot. No other doors will be used for dismissal.

Cancellations & Reminders

Parents will be notified of class cancellations and important events through telephone and/or email messages using the Alert Now messaging system. If you have a phone number or email change, please contact the Religious Education Office.

Website

At www.sothparish.org you can access Religious Education information including registration forms, calendars and more.

Release of Information

All families are asked to complete a Release of Information form. This form gives consent to Shepherd of the Hills to use photographs, videotapes, etc. of students for use in newspapers, bulletins, parish website, social media, etc. and permission to print phone numbers, emails, etc. in a directory for parish use.

2011-2012 5k - 8 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CALENDAR

Wednesday, September 21	Safeguarding All God's Family Workshop	7:00 PM
Wednesday, September 28	Religious Education Classes Begin	6:15 - 7:30 PM
Wednesday, October 5	Religious Education Class	6:15 - 7:30 PM
Wednesday, October 12	Parent Meeting for First Reconciliation	6:15 PM
Wednesday, October 12	Religious Education Class	6:15 - 7:30 PM
Wednesday, October 19	No Class	
Wednesday, October 26	Family Faith Night	6:00 PM
Wednesday, November 2	Religious Education Class	6:15 - 7:30 PM
Wednesday, November 9	Religious Education Class	6:15 - 7:30 PM
Wednesday, November 16	Religious Education Class	6:15 - 7:30 PM
Wednesday, November 23	No Class - Thanksgiving	
Wednesday, November 30	Family Faith Night	6:00 PM
Saturday, December 3	First Reconciliation	9:00 and 10:15 AM
Wednesday, December 7	Religious Education Class	6:15 - 7:30 PM
Wednesday, December 14	Religious Education Class	6:15 - 7:30 PM
Wednesday, December 21	Religious Education Class	6:15—7:30 PM
Wednesday, December 28	No Class - Christmas Break	
Wednesday, January 4	No Class - In-service for Catechists	
Wednesday, January 11	Religious Education Class	6:15—7:30 PM
Wednesday, January 18	Religious Education Class	6:15 - 7:30 PM
Wednesday, January 25	Family Faith Night	6:00 PM
Wednesday, February 1	Religious Education Class	6:15 - 7:30 PM
Wednesday, February 8	Religious Education Class	6:15 - 7:30 PM
Sunday, February 12	Lifeteen Brunch and Book Sale	9:00 AM - 12:30 PM
Wednesday, February 15	No Class—In-service for Catechists	
Wednesday, February 22	Religious Education Class (Ash Wednesday)	6:15 - 7:30 PM
Wednesday, February 29	Family Faith Night	6:00 PM
Wednesday, March 7	No Class	
Wednesday, March 14	Parent Meeting for First Communion	6:15 PM
Wednesday, March 14	Religious Education Class	6:15 - 7:30 PM
Sunday, March 18	Bunny Brunch	9:30 AM
Wednesday, March 21	Religious Education Class	6:15 - 7:30 PM
Wednesday, March 28	Family Faith Night	6:00 PM
Wednesday, April 4	No Class—Holy Week	
Wednesday, April 11	Religious Education Class	6:15 - 7:30 PM
Wednesday, April 18	Religious Education Class	6:15—7:30 PM
Wednesday, April 25	Family Faith Night	6:00 PM
Saturday, May 5	First Communion	4:00 PM
Sunday, May 6	First Communion	8:15 and 10:30 AM

Visit www.sothparish.or for Shepherd of the Hills Parish, Religious Education and School News.