

The St. George Parish School of Religion (PSR) Handbook

Revised: May 19, 2022

Thank you for choosing to enroll your child/ren in St. George PSR. Through Parish leadership and teachers, we look forward to helping your child/ren develop a closer relationship with Jesus. As you know, all learning begins at home, so we appreciate your support.

Mission Statement: The St. George Catholic Church Parish School of Religion will strive to provide a positive, safe learning environment for children to grow in their faith in Jesus. All children are gifts from God and should be recognized as such. St. George follows and implements the beliefs of the Roman Catholic Church.

- We will work to develop a community within each classroom and throughout the entire program. This will help students and families feel a sense of unity within the parish.
- Through prayer, sacrament preparation, relational ministry, and liturgy we will help students learn and understand their Catholic faith.
- We will immerse the students in the traditions rooted in the Catholic Church. Students will be provided with a foundation of faith and see how it can positively impact their life as well as those around them.

Communication: E-mail sainttgeorgepsr@gmail.com or contact Colleen Kunz or Stephanie Haar.

Attendance for Sunday Mass & Holy Days of Obligation: Catholics worship God as a community of faith on Sunday or Saturday evenings by participating at Mass. It is expected that students in the PSR program attend and participate in Mass regularly with their families.

PSR Schedule: PSR will begin the Sunday after Labor Day, and the year will end the Sunday before Mother's Day. Classes will be held at the Community Life Center and start at 9:15 AM on Sunday. Students need to be in the classroom ready to begin at that time. Attendance is taken and recorded

each week. Classes will end at 10:15 AM. Please pick up your child(ren) on time. We encourage families to attend mass before/after PSR to continue faith formation.

Communication: A monthly newsletter will be emailed from the PSR coordinator to each PSR family. Email will be the primary form of communication. If this does not work for your family, please notify your child's teacher or the PSR coordinator. Parents are always encouraged to communicate directly with the teacher. However, if a teacher is unable to be reached, please contact the PSR coordinator.

It is important to keep your contact information up to date. Should any of your information change, please contact saintgeorgepsr@gmail.com

Student Behavior: Students are expected to be respectful and courteous to teachers and fellow students. If a student is disrespectful and/or causes disruption in class, she/he will be sent to the PSR coordinator. Parents will be notified of any discipline issue.

Homework: Students will not be expected to complete homework. However, families are encouraged to practice the Catholic faith at home through prayer, reflection, and discussion.

Sacramental Programs: The PSR Program at St. George is designed as a seamless Sacramental package. Our parish uses the Sadlier Program *We Believe* as well as supplemental materials. It is a sequentially designed program that builds on students' knowledge year by year. Therefore, it is necessary that students attend each year to gain maximum benefit of the curriculum. Children can start as early as five years old in the kindergarten classes.

- The Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Eucharist/Communion are normally received in the second grade. However, two years of sacramental preparation are required, regardless of the child's academic grade.
- The Sacrament of Confirmation is ordinarily received in eighth grade. We require students who have moved into our PSR program to attend a three year Sacramental preparation. They may also provide

documented proof of attendance in another recognized preparation program and/or meet with the PSR Coordinator and Pastor for determination of status.

If a student has not gone through the proper preparation for the Sacrament, they will not be able to receive the Sacrament.

Attendance: Students in the PSR program are expected to attend class weekly. Attendance should be a priority, but we understand that illness and emergencies happen. Please notify your student's teacher or the PSR coordinator as soon as you know your child will/may miss class.

Cancellation of Classes Due to Weather: In the event PSR is canceled due to weather or other condition(s), you will be notified via email, updates on St. George website, and social media. Additionally, a sign will be posted on the main door of the Community Life Center (CLC) if classes are canceled. In any case, make sure your child/ren has entered the CLC before leaving the area.

Tuition & Fees: The fee for PSR is \$35.00 per student, with a family maximum of \$70.00 for two or more children. The funds are used to help offset the cost of materials. The ability to pay is not a requirement or excuse for not attending PSR. Please contact the coordinator of PSR for assistance. Also if you know someone who would like to sponsor a student or family, please have them contact the Parish Office (588-4323).

Withdrawal from PSR: Any family who moves from the St. George Parish is asked to contact the Parish Office before departing. Records of attendance and class/program description can be sent to your child's new program upon request.

Below is a list of topics and prayers that will be discussed at the appropriate grade levels. Please practice and discuss the topics and prayers at home also.

- Sign of the Cross
- Our Father
- Hail Mary
- The Glory Be
- Guardian Angel
- Grace Before & After Meal
- Act of Contrition
- Rosary: how to & mysteries
- Old & New Testaments of the Bible
- Ten Commandments
- Apostle's Creed
- Seven Sacraments
- Nicene Creed
- Holy Days of Obligation
- Beatitudes
- Gifts/Fruits of the Holy Spirit
- Spiritual & Corporal Works of Mercy
- Pope, Bishop, and Parish Leaders

