

St. Ann Roman Catholic Church Faith Formation Handbook and Calendar 2016/2017



Hoboken, NJ 07030



CATECHETICAL SUNDAY 2016

This year, the Church will celebrate Catechetical Sunday on September 18th and will focus on the theme "Prayer: The Faith Prayed." Those who the Community has

designated to serve as catechists will be called forth to be commissioned for their ministry. Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Catechetical Sunday is an opportunity for all to rededicate themselves to this mission as a community of faith.

ABOUT CATECHETICAL SUNDAY

The ministry of the Word is a fundamental part of evangelization through all its stages, because it involves the proclamation of Jesus Christ, the eternal Word of God

"The word of God nourishes both evangelizers and those who are being

704 Jefferson Street
Hoboken, NJ 07030

Dear Parent(s):

Deanery 9 of the Archdiocese of Newark is made up of five parishes: St. Francis, St. Ann, Sts. Peter and Paul, Our Lady of Grace/St. Joseph all located in Hoboken and St. Lawrence in Weehawken. In our concern over the faith development in our parish communities we have come to a common policy for all our parish religious education/faith formation programs.

A Parish is a community of faith to which we choose to belong by registering as a member. It is where we come to celebrate Mass, receive sacraments, be formed in faith and share our time, talents and treasure.

Parents are the first teachers of their children in faith. By their love and care they imagine a God who loves them and is always there for them in times of joy and sorrow. Our parish religious education/faith formation programs are the Church's way of helping parents in the awesome responsibility of raising their child in the faith in which they were baptized.

We have some expectations about where and how children are enrolled, so we have developed a policy to define what is expected and required in all our parishes.

- A. Families must be actively registered in a specific parish community
- B. Children are to be registered in the religious education/faith formation program of the parish in which you are registered. The only exception to this rule will be in rare cases of necessity. This exception will be granted with a written letter from the pastor of the parish in which you are registered.
- C. The parish religious education/faith formation program is not just a way to receive sacraments, but an on-going formation in faith for both children and their parents. It is the policy of the Archdiocese of Newark and of this deanery that your child is expected to continue in the faith development process from at least Grades 1 to 8.

Parish Mission
We, the Catholic community of Saint Ann parish, are guided by the Gospel of Jesus Christ so that each person may be able to experience love, forgiveness, unity and spiritual peace and bring this experience to those most in need.

Children are expected to have sufficient faith formation to be accepted into a sacramental preparation program. Participation may be expected for make-up sessions.

The parish that you choose should be the place where you feel most "at home". Participation in community of faith enables us to grow and be strengthened as both individuals as well as a community. The booklet that follows is how and when we are formed in Faith Formation at Saint Ann Catholic Church.

Faith Formation Mission

Sincerely,

The Pastors of Deanery 9 of the Archdiocese of Newark

Religious Education at Saint Ann is rooted in Sacred Scriptures. It is faithful to the Tradition of the Catholic Church and guided by the Holy Spirit. Our program is centered on the Person of Jesus Christ, inviting relationship

Goals

- ❖ To instill the parents with the knowledge that faith begins at home which is the Domestic Church.
- ❖ To encourage the parents to participate more fully in their child's faith formation so that they, too, may grow in faith.
- ❖ To develop a strong sense of belonging to a parish family, by participation in Sunday Mass and other parish celebrations.
- ❖ To prepare children and their families for reception of the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist.

Registration

❖ To work with our youth in preparing them for the Sacrament of Confirmation both spiritually and doctrinally, developing a habit of service to others and commitment to worship and community.

Saint Ann does follow the Archdiocese of Newark policy that families are to be registered in the parish as a requisite to register for the Religious Education Program. If your family is not a member of our parish and would like to enroll in our program, please contact Fr. Remo, our pastor or Barbara Migliori, Director of Faith Formation, so we can make the necessary arrangements. A copy of your child's Baptismal Certificate along with other sacramental certificates that your child has received must be submitted to complete the registration process.

All students meet at 8:50am in HCA Gym. Prayer Assembly begins at 9:00am. Children will go to class at 9:10am and at 10:20am, children will be chaperoned to Church for the 10:30am Mass. Mass and class are to be attended as a requisite for attendance. Parents must give written approval for the Catechists to walk their child(ren) to the Church.

2016-2017 Class Schedule

2016

September	11 th , 18 th , 25 th
October	2 nd , 16 th , 23 rd , 30 th
November	6 th , 13 th , 20 th
December	4 th , 11 th , 18 th

Each course of study at each grade level is done sequentially.

~~2017~~ **2 absences per semester will be allowed.** Frequent

January makes it impossible for your child to grasp concepts.

February Developing a sense of community and identity with the

March parish are important aspects of our overall program. We live

April and grow in the parish family. **Attendance at Sunday**

Masses is highly recommended whether class is in

May or not. 7th, 14th (Last Day of Classes)

If your child is going to be absent, please call Barbara Migliori at (201) 207-2328 before class begins so she can inform your catechist or you can contact the catechist directly.

Attendance

Students arriving to class after 9:00am need to be escorted to their classroom by a parent/guardian so that the Faith Formation catechist is aware of their arrival.

In case of inclement weather, your child's Catechist will notify you of cancellations via phone, text or email.

Fire Drills

Fire Drills will be conducted during the year to insure the safety of our students.

Student Conduct of Discipline

Students are required to be polite and respectful to the Faith Formation staff, catechists, their peers, and school/Church property.

- Students are expected to show respect for all persons and their feelings in words and actions.
- Students are expected to comply with the classroom rules set out by the catechist in the interest of providing a good learning environment.
- Students are not allowed to bring gum or candy to class.
- Hats are not to be worn in the building

- New Jersey State Statutes requires that the Division of Toys and Electronics not be brought to the class
- Youth and Family Services (DYES) be notified immediately if a catechist and/or Parish Catechetical Leader of Religious Education suspects that a child has been abused or neglected.

Custody

In cases where the custody of our students has been restricted by the courts, a copy of the court document must be on file in our office. This information will be forwarded to your child's catechist.

Drugs

Drugs are not allowed on school/Church property. If a student is found to be in possession, the student will be detained until the police are notified. Parents(s)/Guardian(s) will be notified.

Child Abuse Policy

Student records

Every effort will be made to keep detailed records of each child. These records contain sacrament information. If a

Monthly Family Sundays

On the third Sunday of each month, designated as Family Sunday, parents and their children will sit together to celebrate the Eucharist at the 10:30am Mass. Prior to the Family Sunday Mass, parents are invited to meet with Fr. Remo in the HCA Gym to discuss and learn matters of our faith.

The Family Sundays are as follows:

- September 18th
- October 16th
- November 20th
- December 18th
- January 15th
- February 12th
- March 19th
- April 23rd

Textbooks

Grades 1-8 will use the New Evangelization Edition "Christ Our Life" by Loyola Press. Candidates for Confirmation will use "Chosen" by Ascension Press. Lost books are to be replaced at a cost of \$20.00 each.

Catechists

ACRE Exam

The Assessment of Catholic Religious Education (ACRE) is an integrated, multi-level survey instrument developed by the National Catholic Educational Association. It is designed to provide parish and diocesan religious education educators with valuable information on the students' religious knowledge, religious beliefs, attitudes, and practices and

Grade 1	Carolina Vera & Arlene Biehard	Room 101
Grade 2	Staci Zeman & Antoinette Chalot	Module 9
Grade 3	Judge, Religious Education	Room 103 and
Grade 4	Joanne Redmond	Room 106
Grade 5	Annmarie Rizzo	Room 108
Grade 6	Paige Junge	Room 107
Grade 7	Rosemarie Truglio & Patrick Giandolfo	Gym
Grade 8	Lisa DelValle	Module 1

A Parent's Prayer

Loving God,
You are the giver of all we possess the source of all of
our blessings.

We thank and praise you.

Thank you for the gift of our children.

May our children come to know you, the one true
God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.

May the Holy Spirit help them grow in faith, hope and
love.

May their ears hear your voice.

May their eyes see **Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Notes**.

May their lips proclaim your word.

May their hearts be your dwelling place.

May their hands do works of charity.

May their feet walk in the way of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Reference: Loyola Press

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What does the Word “Catechetical” Mean?

The word might be more familiar than you think. Many Catholics have used the word “catechism” for years, and they know it has something to do with the compendium of the Church’s teachings. The root word, “catechesis,” is from a Greek word meaning “to echo, or resound.” Catechesis, is the act of resounding or bringing the Church’s teachings to the world. A catechist is one who teaches in the name of the Church.

Why do we have a special day set aside to commission catechists?

Catechesis is a distinct and special ministry in the Church. As the Catechism of the Catholic Church makes clear, “Catechesis is intimately bound up with the whole of the Church’s life...her inner growth and correspondence with God’s plan depend essentially on catechesis” (no.7).

This ministry of teaching in the name of the Church has a profound dignity, which is why catechists are formally commissioned by the Church.

It is only fitting that we set aside a day to highlight this ministry and invite the entire church community to think about our responsibility to share our faith with others.

How are parents, the primary catechists of their children, recognized on Catechetical Sunday?

Parents are truly the primary catechists of their children. They prepare the soil and plant the first seeds of faith. On Catechetical Sunday, we not only highlight the work of catechists in parishes and schools, but we also commend parents and guardians and encourage them to take seriously their role of making their Catholic households a place where faith is passed on to the next generation. This is why the rite of blessing of catechists used on Catechetical Sunday includes an optional blessing of parents and guardians.