

Tuition

Tuition is expected at the time of registration unless prior accommodation is made with the CRE. Families can save \$20 by registering by July 1! The money collected is used for textbooks, teaching supplies, sacramental preparation materials, and other program resources.

Volunteer and Wish List Needs

Our program relies on volunteers! We encourage every family to sign up for a volunteer position. Available positions include **catechists, aides, substitutes, hall monitors, office helpers, start and end of year organizers, and special needs instructors.** With many volunteers, most of these positions will only require a few hours of your time and no family will feel burdened. Want to help out, but feel like there isn't enough time in the day as it is? Consider donating an item from our **Amazon wish list.** You'll find it under the email address:

bfullerton@sacredheartsparish.com. Or, we are always very happy to receive **forever stamps, religious stickers, and holy cards.** Thank you!

A Message from the CRE

Dear Families,

Thank you for joining us for the '17-'18 Sacred Hearts Parish Religious Education program year! We are so happy to have your family with us. Welcome especially to families moving into our area or with children now old enough to join us for the first time!

Matthew Kelly, a well-respected Catholic speaker and author, states that every person needs to answer the following four questions: "Who am I? What am I doing here? What really matters? What doesn't matter?" He goes on to say that answering these questions helps us to live life with passion and purpose. These are such important questions, and such an important goal! I encourage you to regularly carve out small portions of time in the coming year where you and your family can quietly bring these questions to our God in prayer. Create a habit of daily family prayer in your home and reap the benefits for years to come!

I invite you and your children to view the '17-'18 Religious Education program year as an opportunity to grow in faith, to deepen your relationship with Christ, and to practice living with passion and purpose.

In Christ,

Beth Fullerton

Sacred Hearts Parish Religious Education

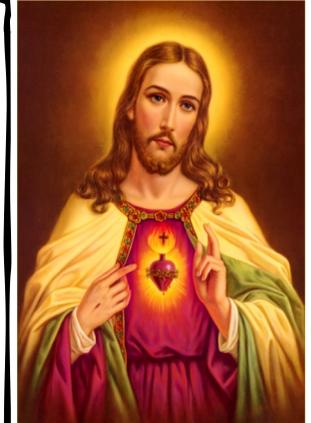
2017-2018 Handbook

Prayer for Families

We bless your name, O Lord,
for sending your own incarnate Son
to become part of a family,
so that, as he lived its life,
He would experience its worries and its joys.

We ask you, Lord,
to protect and watch over this family,
so that in the strength of your grace
its members may enjoy prosperity,
possess the priceless gift of your peace,
and, as the Church alive in the home,
bear witness in this world to your glory.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.



Basic Outline of Study

Grade K: God's Creation · Grade 1: Following Jesus
Grade 2: The Mass & Celebrating First Reconciliation and First Communion
Grade 3: The Church · Grade 4: The Ten Commandments & The Beatitudes
Grade 5: The Seven Sacraments · Grade 6: The Old Testament
Grades 7&8: The New Testament: The Life of Jesus
Grades 9&10: Confirmation Prep

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Religious Education Guidelines and Policies

Parents as Primary Educators

The Church teaches that “parents have the first responsibility for the education of their children” (CCC 2223). We look forward to assisting you in that task this year. Our parish RE program is meant to supplement the religious education you do in your home. It is important that you take your children to Mass each weekend, and that you pray and talk about God and the Catholic faith with them on a regular basis. Read Bible stories together, and let them see you turning to the Bible or Catechism! You are your child’s most important role model.

Parent or Guardian Responsibilities

- Faithfully attend Mass each week with your children.
- Cultivate habits of daily prayer and work with your children to do the same. Pray with your children regularly.
- Bring your children on-time to class each week, pick them up on-time, and discuss with them what they are learning in class.

Student Responsibilities

- Faithfully attend Mass each week and pray daily.
- Ask your parents to take you to Mass and join you in prayer.
- Take care of the textbooks and other materials that you receive and bring the necessary materials to every class.
- Do not bring food, drink, or electronic devices to class. Teachers or administrators may take away these items if they find them in use.
- Wear modest clothing to class. Do not wear hats.
- Act with Christian charity towards teachers, staff, and other students.

Attendance

Faithful attendance and full participation are essential to the successful education and spiritual development of our students. No more than four absences are allowed. Students who miss more than four classes will be required to complete extra work, and may need to meet with the Coordinator of Religious Education and/or repeat the grade. Please contact the CRE if your child will be absent from a class.

Homework

Our catechists may assign homework. Students are required to complete this work in order to facilitate their education and engage in their faith throughout the week. Parents should help their children review and practice their prayers.

Special Needs

Parents of students with special needs should contact the CRE when registering. We will be very happy to work with you to make any necessary accommodations. Students requiring medication, such as an Epi-pen, must be able to self-medicate or have a parent remain with them.

Arrival and Dismissal

Please be timely when dropping off and picking up your children!

Grades K-6 at SHS (Sun 10:15-11:15) and K-8 at SHS (Wed 6:30-7:30)

Sunday classes will gather and dismiss from the gym. Wednesday classes will gather and dismiss from the cafeteria. *To ensure the safety of our students, parents are required to escort their children to and from their class’ drop off and pick up point. Parents of students in grades K-2 must sign their child in and out of class.* With prior written notice from the parent, older siblings or other adults may do the same.

Grades 6-8 at St. Patrick Church (Mon 7:00-8:00): Please park in the church parking lot and have students enter the main church through the front doors. Students will be dismissed from the Church Hall at 8:00 p.m.

Grades 9-10 at SH Church Hall (Year 1 Sun 6:00-8:00; Year 2 Sun or Mon 6:00-8:00): Students can enter the Church Hall through the doors on Carleton Ave or on the opposite side of the Church. Students will be dismissed from the Church Hall.

Classroom Discipline

Students will behave and show respect for themselves, their teachers, other students, and Church property. In the event that a child has difficulty behaving appropriately, he/she will be required to meet with the Coordinator of Religious Education. Persistent problems will result in the student only being able to attend class with a parent present, or continuing lessons at home.

Religious Education News

I primarily communicate with families via email. Please also regularly check the RE Facebook page, parish bulletin, and parish website for RE updates.

Weather Emergencies

Classes do not meet when Haverhill Public Schools cancel school or after-school activities because of weather. Cancellations are announced by email, on WCVB-Channel 5 and Channel 7 (on tv and on their Internet sites) and on our Facebook page—www.facebook.com/shpre.

“Talking About Touching” and “Keeping Children Safe” Curricula

The Archdiocese of Boston requires that we present personal safety information to students in grades K-5. Students in grades 6-8 are required to complete the Created for Love Program. The dates of these lessons as well as more information about content will be provided in advance of this instruction.

Program Calendar

Our program year is roughly 25 weeks in length. It begins in September and continues through mid-April. We rarely meet on holiday weekends. Calendar postcards and in-depth program calendars will be made available to families in the coming months.