

## **St. Rosalie's Religious Formation Information/Guidelines/Policies for Parents/Guardians of young parishioners enrolled in RF program:**

Welcome to the Religious Formation program for our young parishioners who are enrolling in the 2017-2018 sessions for levels 1-9 (C3).

I hope your summer gave you time to recuperate before entering into the hustle and bustle of this season! We all need to take time from the everyday routine of running from minute to minute to ask God for His blessings and graces needed to accomplish all we do in the course of the day. May I suggest you try to allow yourself a 3 minute "retreat" which can be found by going online to the *Loyola Press website* or *Catholic Company-Morning Offering*. You would be surprised how 3 focused minutes can change your mental and emotional approach to the day's challenges.

**You will get the schedule of when there are NO sessions for levels 1-6 on the first day of sessions.**

**Levels C1, C2, and C3 will have a different schedule of their sessions.**

It is expected that all children attend their sessions on a regular basis, as anything that is routine becomes habitual and improves retention of the lesson. We are all striving to have their faith become habitual, developing a virtuous person, so they may know how strongly God's presence is with them in their daily challenges and can feel free to call upon Him in any situation.

We are continuing with the Pflaum Gospel weeklies program this year for levels 1-6. Please allow and encourage your child to share what they have learned. They will not have a book, but use weekly handouts. They will also have an activity/prayer book, that will stay in the Parish Center and will go home at the end of the sessions in May. The program is based on the week's Gospel, so when they are at Mass, they will already be familiar with the reading of the Gospel, it's meaning and how it pertains to their young lives. Of course, Mass is the only place they can receive Jesus, so please bring them to Jesus and allow them to witness that you also recognize the value in receiving Jesus. *Religious Formation is to help develop their faith beyond what Mass and Parents give them- it can never take the place of either.*

If your child is not able to come to a session, it is your responsibility to call the office, 631-728-9248, to let us know why, and to pick up the lesson missed to be completed at home.

**In keeping with safety issues, we do not allow any child to use cell phones** for any reason in the sessions and only on the premises with staff approval. They may use the office phone as needed. Please remind your child of this policy.

**All drivers must park cars in the Church's parking lot. Any driver with a handicap sign or those who have a child under age 2 in the car, may park at the Parish Center. I need to be inside the Parish Center to coordinate what needs to be addressed and I appreciate not having to be outside as the "reminder" to drivers of this rule.** This safety rule has been in place for years based on the recommendation of our Police, Ambulance and Fire Department as well as our Pastor. Those who have a particular reason that prevents them from adhering to it, must speak with the RF coordinator. The safety of our young parishioners is our highest priority. Adhering to rules is a good practice for our children to witness.

**All children in levels 1-3 need to have an adult or older sibling escort them to and from the Parish Center to the room where they have their sessions. All children in levels 4 and higher will leave the Parish Center to meet their parent/guardian.**

(continued on back)

We use an automated phone/email system for making announcements, either planned or emergency notifications. We always need your up to date contact info.

**There are required Parent Gatherings for all levels at scheduled dates during the year.** We will have a schedule of those meetings available as soon as possible. There will be no “make-up” date, so please schedule the dates on your calendars and make arrangements to attend. These meetings are for adults. If anyone needs to have a child supervised at the meeting, due to no responsible adult at home, please call the office and I will try to make arrangements to have supervision available. I will need requests 2 weeks in advance of the scheduled gathering.

**There may not be any food or drink in the buildings during session time.** Please make sure your child has had a snack & drink before they arrive. It is important that all children have used the bathroom before arriving to avoid the interruptions of many bathroom breaks during the limited time they are here.

Please help your child to know their catechist’s name. They need to come to know this person as someone who cares to give hours of their time to help your child on their faith journey. They deserve all of our respect and support and prayers in this ministry. As always, the need for more parishioners to answer the call to the ministry of Catechesis is needed. Be it either to help weekly with one level or to be a substitute as needed. Consider being a catechist with a partner. Please pray and then talk to me if God is urging you to join us in the effort to guide our young parishioners to come to know the Holy Trinity better, deeper.

*We are here to assist you and your child!*

Please contact us as needed:

**RF office: 631-728-9248**      Email: [rfeileen@optonline.net](mailto:rfeileen@optonline.net)

Office hours:

End of September- beginning of May:

Sunday 10:30 -12:30

Monday and Tuesday: 10:00 -8:30      Closed: (12:00-1:00)

Wednesday 10:00 -4:00      Closed: (12:00-1:00)

Parish Center is open Monday – Friday 9:00-4:00/ closed from 12:00-1:00

RF office assistants: Mrs. Lilliana Villa and Mrs. Julia Brandimarte

*Peace, Ms. Eileen Carter McPhelin*

Director of Religious Formation

Please save this info for future reference

**Please sign and return the attached page when registering**