



St, Joseph Parish School of Religion

What is the Parish School of Religion?

Also known as PSR, the Parish School of Religion is a religious formation program for our parish children who are enrolled in public school. We offer Kindergarten through 8th grade religious studies.

Kindergarten - Children who are eligible for kindergarten in a public school may enroll in our PSR program. Students are introduced to the life of Jesus, Bible stories, religious holidays and church customs and rituals. Kindergarten is an optional year. While some children may experience difficulty in the transition from pre-school to all day kindergarten, others are eager to be in a classroom setting. The decision to send a child to PSR for kindergarten is left solely to the parents. You are the best judge of whether your child is prepared to face an additional class once a week.

Grade 1 – *This is a required PSR year for all of our public school children.* They will begin to memorize and comprehend basic Catholic teaching (doctrine) and prayers. These will be the building blocks for the next two sacraments they will receive in second grade. A child who is not properly instructed in first grade is placed at such a disadvantage that we do not concede the importance of attendance. *Children must attend the 1st grade program* to be adequately prepared to understand and receive these sacraments.

Grade 2 – This year moves very quickly as your child prepares to receive the sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. They are excited to receive Jesus! Since birth, you parents have been and continue to be the primary educators of your children in the ways of the faith. Please make every effort to bring your child to Mass each week and work with them at home. You may be surprised by what a second grader will teach you!

Grade 3 thru 7 – These are important years in your child’s faith development. Students will continue to be nourished by their faith as they move each year toward a more thoughtful and mature spirituality. They will learn important life-lessons in morality and develop a healthy and whole conscious based on scripture and Catholic tradition. These years are not optional; we cannot condone a drop-in, drop-out mentality based on convenience. Our God is constant and our rewards are eternal!

Grade 8 – This is the year our young men and women will open themselves to the Holy Spirit and commit themselves to celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation. They will share their time, talent and treasure in service to the community in response to the Gospel call. They will be excited to make this decision for themselves! They will want to assume a more “adult” position in our faith community and contemplate God’s plan for their future in our Church. This is not the end of their spiritual journey! The door is open for their next step...

If you have questions regarding any aspect of your child’s religious education, please contact the PSR office at 636-441-0055 ext. 300 or 301.