

# Church of Saint Joseph

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM 2019-2020

CCD (Grade K-7)

Parish House Phone Number: 973-543-5950

Website: [www.stjoesmendham.org](http://www.stjoesmendham.org)

### **Mission Statement**

The Church of Saint Joseph Religious Education Program comprises a community of students, catechists with their helpers, parents and clergy, united in genuine love and concern for the purpose of religious formation. The parish staff and its catechists strive to provide a safe and quality Christian environment in which the students can grow in the knowledge and practice of their faith. Nurtured by the sacraments, and inspired by the Word of God as proclaimed in Holy Scripture, we focus to proclaim the message of Jesus.

- To support parents in their role as primary educators of their children
- To teach Jesus Christ, our Savior and Model of Christian life.
- To develop a strong sense of belonging to the parish family, as evidenced by participation in weekly Mass and other parish celebrations
- To prepare families for their children's first reception of the Sacraments of Reconciliation & Eucharist & Confirmation.

### **Catechetical Staff**

Pastor: Rev. Msgr. Joseph T. Anginoli, J.C.L. x15

Parochial Vicar: Rev. Andrew Burns x16

Director of Religious Education: Annette Tracy x13

Confirmation Coordinator & Youth Minister: Mark Tosso x17

Religious Education Assistant: Mary Maximos x14

### **Schedule of Sessions**

Kindergarten Sundays 9:45am-11:15am (Optional program)

Grades 1-7 Sundays 9:45am-11:15am or Mondays 4:00pm-5:15pm

Grades 8 Youth Minister, Mark Tosso provides separate information regarding Confirmation prep

### **Arrival and Dismissal Policy**

***Enter the property from the NEW STREET ENTRANCE only!***

***For safety reasons, all doors to the school building will be locked at all times during religion classes.***

***Arrival:*** Upon arrival all students will gather and line-up in the Gym along with their Catechists. Sessions begin promptly at their designated times. Therefore, any student arriving 10 minutes late (after the designated starting time) will not be admitted because class has started and the school will be locked.

In the *rare circumstance* when a parent must pick up the child before the end of class, the parent is to inform the DRE in advance. Arrangements will be made for your child to be brought to you at the back cafeteria door.

***Dismissal:*** All students will gather in the cafeteria for dismissal. Since the building will be locked, parents will not be able to walk into the school to meet their child outside the classroom. We will only use the rear door of the school located in the back parking lot as our exit point (rear entrance cafeteria doorway). Parents will either walk or drive up to this door only.

To avoid traffic congestion at dismissal and for the safety of all, we ask all parents to drive onto the property using the NEW STREET entrance (take Hilltop Road to Prospect Street to New Street) and form the car pick up line with an over-flow onto New St. A sign with your family name will be given to you for your car window.

## **Attendance**

Religious Education in the Catholic Church is done either through attending Catholic school or by joining the parish religious education formation program. Instruction begins in 1<sup>st</sup> grade – our Kindergarten program is optional. We work with parents to prepare children for the sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, and Confirmation. At St. Joseph's Church, Confirmation is in 8<sup>th</sup> grade. If you think you will be considering having your child Confirmed in the years ahead, the policy is that the child has had 7 years continuously in a formal religious education program or Catholic school prior to starting Confirmation formation classes in 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Regular attendance at weekly Mass is expected of the participants in the program.

At our parish, religious education is scheduled for either Sunday or Monday as per the 'Schedule of Sessions'. We do not have alternative days or times. Students are expected to arrive on time and participate in class. We will allow a maximum of 3 absences. Make-up work will be expected for all missed classes. *Excessive absenteeism may result in having to repeat the grade.*

**Parents, please call the attendance line PRIOR to class to report an absence: 973-543-5950 x 19.**

## **Cancellation of Classes**

Class cancellations will be announced on the religious education phone recording 973-543-5950 x 19, x 13 and on the parish website: [www.stjoesmendham.org](http://www.stjoesmendham.org).

## **Personal Conduct**

- Students are expected to conduct themselves in a courteous & Christian manner.
- Students are expected to treat clergy, catechists, adults & students with respect.
- There will be zero tolerance of harassment of any kind.

## **Registration**

Registration for the parish Religious Education program begins in month of May each year. The Universal Registration Form, Confirmation Application (for those in 8<sup>th</sup> grade) plus payment is due by July 1<sup>st</sup>. Forms will be available on the parish website and we ask that you mail them in to the Parish House at 6 New Street, Mendham, NJ. There will be a \$25 per child late fee charged for those who register after July 1<sup>st</sup>. Only registered parishioners may register for our program. We welcome any new families. For students who attend public school, formal religious education begins in 1<sup>st</sup> Grade and is a continuous process through to Confirmation in Grade 8.

## **Tuition**

To operate the Religious Education program effectively and as a self-sustaining program, parents are asked to pay tuition.

Each family will be asked to pay a \$200 family fee each year. Additional fees:

- Grade K – 8 Early Registration: **\$30 per child** from April -July 1 or **\$55 per child** after July 1st
- Sacramental Fee – Additional \$75 for First Eucharist (Grade 2) and Confirmation (Grade 8)

The Family Fee portion of the tuition (\$200) will be waived for parents who offer to teach class. If two volunteers share teaching a class, then each will receive a 50% discount (\$100).

***We seek to partner with you and to serve you and your family on our shared faith journey as effectively as possible.***