

**Faith Formation Handbook
2021 - 2022**



**Holy Rosary Catholic Church
St. Wenceslaus Mission
1416 George Street
Rosenberg, TX 77471**

Phone: 281-342-3089
Elementary Faith Formation
High School & Junior High Youth Ministry
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MISSION STATEMENT OF HOLY ROSARY PARISH

We, The Catholic community of Holy Rosary, Rosenberg, under the patronage of Mary, Queen of the Holy Rosary, are bonded together by a common belief in Jesus Christ and our commitment to His teachings. We, as a community of believers, are called to proclaim the Gospel, to be a witness and sign of God's Kingdom on earth, and to work for our salvation. Mindful of our Patroness, Mary, and her example as parent, teacher, and intercessor, we are committed to accomplish this mission through service, education, prayer and the celebration of the Eucharist.

FAITH FORMATION MISSION STATEMENT

We in the Faith Formation office of Holy Rosary Parish are committed to lead and guide our parishioners in all stages of life and development to continuing conversion and faith formation as Disciples of Christ. We will do this by educating, serving and evangelizing, in order to become a parish of full, conscious, active participants in liturgy and ministers of Christ.

GENERAL

The Faith Formation (FF hereafter) Process at Holy Rosary Parish consists of classes for grades Pre-K through 12th grade, and sacramental preparation for First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, and Confirmation. The process is designed to meet the catechetical, spiritual, and liturgical formation of the parish and to promote community service.

COMMUNICATION

All FF information is on our website at www.hrccr.com. The FF office will provide parents with a calendar for the year. Reminder notices and parent letters will also be sent with students and also emailed and texted. It is IMPERATIVE that you register with Holy Rosary's Flocknote Notification System. Please sign up at <https://holyrosaryrosenberg.flocknote.com/>. In weather emergencies, please follow the Lamar Consolidated Independent School District rulings. You may also follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Snapchat (@holyrosaryrosenberg , @hr2ym)

REGISTRATION

Early registration will be in July/August. Registration will continue until September 15th. After this time, registrations will be accepted on the basis of availability of classes and a \$40.00 late fee is assessed. Registration fees are as follows: one child - \$75.00, two children - \$100.00, three or more children - \$125.00. There is also a sacramental preparation fee for materials of \$55.00 per child for those in First Communion classes. The Sacrament preparation fee for 1st Year Confirmation is \$0 and the fee for 2nd Year Confirmation is \$70.00. The deadline to register for sacramental preparation is Wednesday, September 10th. 1st & 2nd Year Confirmation students will be required to participate in a retreat each year and there will be a separate registration and fee for these retreats.

***Registration fees are used to offset the cost of books, teacher and class supplies, and hospitality. Registration fees will be paid in full at the time of registration. No child will be denied FF for financial reasons. Please contact our Faith Formation office for confidential arrangements.*

SACRAMENT PREPARATION

First Communion requires two years of systematic catechesis by attending all FF classes. Immediate, sacramental preparation takes place during the second year, **in addition to** grade-specific FF classes. All sacramental preparation takes place on Saturday mornings. Please refer to the FF calendar.

Confirmation requires two years of systematic catechesis by attending all FF classes. Immediate, sacramental preparation also takes place during the second year, and will be held once per month on Sunday mornings 10:00 am – 11:20 am. A separate calendar will be provided. The Confirmation retreat is required each year along with an interview and participation in service projects. Teens in Confirmation preparation and who attend Catholic school are still required to attend Sunday Mass, sacramental preparation classes, the Confirmation retreats and regular FF classes and group meetings before classes. Guests are usually welcome, but you must contact the Director ahead of time. There is also a sheet of guidelines (Acknowledgement Form) that is given out to parents and teens and is available at <https://www.hrccr.com/faith-formation-for-high-school>

ATTENDANCE

Parents are obligated to be the first examples of faith and are expected to attend regular Mass with their families. Regular attendance at FF classes is an important factor in helping your child deepen his/her understanding of church teaching, scripture, prayer and the importance of community.

First Communion youth (1st and 2nd grade) and Confirmation I and II teens should not miss more than two classes per school year of FF.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

For the safety of all our children and volunteers, parents need to drop-off & pick-up the child in his/her own classroom.

10:10 AM Sunday classes: Elementary students will be dropped-off and picked-up in their classrooms.

6:45 PM Wednesday classes: Junior High and High School Students will be dropped-off and picked-up in front of the Parish Hall only. Please follow the traffic flow diagram.

CIRCLE OF GRACE –

Every year, the Archdiocese requires that the students registered in Faith Formation at any level, receive an age-appropriate explanation and teaching on Safe Environment Training.

"August 2017, Cardinal DiNardo has directed that every parish in the Archdiocese implement the Circle of Grace program, children and youth are taught to identify and maintain appropriate physical, emotional, spiritual and sexual boundaries; recognize when boundary violations are about to occur; and demonstrate how to take action when boundary violations are threatened or violated. Along with a strong parent component, the program teaches children that God is with them at all times, especially in difficult situations."

It is important that they are learning this at home, but also in their Church Environment - to ensure that they always feel Safe, Protected, Valued, and Heard. Class time will be used to review the program, and you will be given at least a two week notice to opt in or out to your student being in class for these sessions. We strongly encourage you to review all the levels here before they are discussed in class, and so you can make an informed decision on your child's participation: <https://www.hrccr.com/circle-of-grace> . If you have any questions, please reach out to me!

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Parents are the first and primary source of education for the family. Parents should lead by example and attend regular Sunday Mass. The FF Program supports the family in educating the children. The success of every religion class and event depends on the cooperation of the catechist, student and parent. We need and appreciate you! Please find out where your gifts can be used 😊

SPECIAL NEEDS

In most cases, children who are in Special Education classes in school should also be in religion classes adapted to their special needs. Please talk with your child's teacher and the FF Office regarding your child's specific needs. Any medication or health concerns should be brought to the attention of our FF office, or as soon as it is diagnosed. It is our policy not to administer any **prescribed medication** to students. These matters will be kept in confidence

CONDUCT EXPECTATIONS

CODE OF CONDUCT

The Code of Conduct for the FF Program is consistent with that expected of a guest in a Christian home. The emphasis will be to provide an atmosphere in which the students can best experience and live the Christian principles presented to them in the program. Students are expected to arrive on time and remain for the entire class or event.

Please understand that all regulations are made for the safety and well-being of all who participate in the FF Program at Holy Rosary Parish. All are invited to cooperate so that a harmonious atmosphere exists for sharing our Catholic faith.

GENERAL CONDUCT

It is our desire to foster an atmosphere of respect for one another in the FF process for the children and young people. We expect the students to be respectful in words and actions to one another as well as to the volunteers. We also expect the young people to participate fully in all activities. The use of cell phones during scheduled class time is not allowed. Any student seen using a cell phone during class will be asked to put it away. Further use will result in the cell phone being taken up until the end of class.

We ask that you convey to your children and young people that their catechists are volunteers who give of their time to come and share their Catholic faith. They do this because of their love of God and their love for all that God has created. They deserve to be treated with respect.

The physical surroundings are also to be treated with respect. The classrooms and other spaces used are to be taken care of and not marred or damaged in any way. Respect must also be given to the items in those spaces such as walls, chairs, tables, pencils, pens, texts, etc.

All students are expected to conduct themselves according to the standards of Christian charity, virtue, good manners, civility and due respect. Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated.

DISCIPLINE POLICIES –

- At the first incident the child/student is to be reminded of expected behavior and the consequences of misbehavior. A warning will be given.
- Second incident, the student's parent will be called to discuss the situation.
- Third incident, a parent meeting with Fr. Orrin will be scheduled.

PARENT & STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM

A Parent and Student Acknowledgement Form will be provided to you at the Parent Meeting at the beginning of the year. You can also find it at www.hrccr.com. These must be reviewed and initialed by both parent and student and returned to our office.

CLOSING

In closing, it is our deepest mission to help your children and teens grow in their relationship to Christ and His Church. We will encourage full participation in Church events, service projects, Liturgies, Feast Days, Church celebrations, and Faith Formation events. We ask you to dive in! Join us in embracing a full, well-rounded education by confirming and instilling the teachings in your home, and encouraging and affirming their participation at Church and in their Faith Formation classes. We appreciate you and your families and look forward to an amazing year!