



ARCHDIOCESE OF
NEW ORLEANS

Office of Religious Education

Why 30 vs. 30?

You may be asking why the change in policy for Parish School of Religion (PSR) programs from 30 hours to 30 sessions. Good question! It will be clearer if the change is viewed in light of what students in Catholic schools receive for Religious Education.

Catholic school students, like all students, are in school for 180 days. This gives 180 sessions for each discipline, including Religion. Furthermore, in Catholic schools the entire day is permeated with faith formation. With the new policy for PSR, our students will receive 30 sessions of religious instruction, but this still is **only 1/6** the amount of class time that is given to those in Catholic schools. This ratio makes it obvious that even by having our PSR students for 30 sessions, we are still short-changing them.

Given the vast difference in time spent in a formal class environment in our PSR classes, it is evident why this change is necessary. This also places an important emphasis on the parent as the primary religious educator of their child and the parish as the partner in this most vital part of the child's formation.

If you would like more information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 504-861-6309 or at alicehughes@archdiocese-no.org.

May the peace and blessings of the Triune God be with you as you continue your faith journey,

Alice R. Hughes, M.R.E.
Director of the Office of Religious Education

The Office of Religious Education serves the catechetical needs of all people in the Archdiocese of New Orleans by providing lifelong formation centered in the person of Jesus Christ that echoes Christ, his teachings, and his invitation to discipleship.

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