

Saint Margaret Mary Religious Education and Youth Ministry

2017-2018 Registration Information

Dear Parents,

We are excited to be planning another year of Religious Education and Youth Ministry programs! The planning process this year has resulted in many changes, both parish-wide and within Religious Ed/Youth Ministry itself. First and foremost, the Sunday Mass schedule will change as of June 1, 2017. Masses will be offered at 8 am, 10 am and 12 noon. This directly affects our Freshman and Sophomore Chosen Program. Our Peer Ministry Program for Juniors and Seniors will also be affected, and info will be sent out later in the year regarding Peer changes. Also, after much careful consideration, we have changed the time slots for Kindergarten thru 8th grade classes offered on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays; and, due to declining enrollment, we will no longer offer classes on Saturdays or Sundays for Pre-Schoolers thru 5th graders. Carefully check out our new class times on the flip-side of the registration form. Here's a few other things to bear in mind as you consider your family's schedule for 2017-2018:

Parents, We Need You!

Please prayerfully consider sharing your faith with our children by being a catechist for a class or Youth Ministry group. But if leading a class would not be your first choice, then perhaps being a Catechist Aide might be the job for you. You would just provide that "extra pair of hands" that is so helpful, particularly for the lower grade classes. We also offer childcare for the infants and toddlers of our catechists and aides. Maybe you could consider staffing the nursery during your child's class time. Catechists receive a full tuition waiver for all their children. Aides and Babysitters receive a \$50 tuition credit. All volunteers must take a "Protecting God's Children" class and submit a background check form. For more information, call the RE/YM Office at 630-369-0777.

Sacrament Preparation

We expect that all children entering our program have been baptized. If your child has not been baptized, please call the Parish Office at 630-369-0777 to make arrangements for baptism before enrolling your child in a program.

The Diocese of Joliet recommends two years of enrollment prior to receiving the Sacraments of First Holy Communion (received in 2nd Grade), First Reconciliation (normally received in 3rd Grade or 2nd Grade if a parent so chooses) and Confirmation (received in 10th Grade). Therefore, candidates for First Communion and Reconciliation must be enrolled in a class in 1st Grade and candidates for Confirmation must be enrolled in 9th Grade. **If your child is delayed in Sacrament Preparation, please call our office for options.**

Policies

A registration is not complete unless we receive both the **registration form and payment**. No one will be allowed to attend class until registration is complete. We cannot accept phone requests to "hold" a spot in a class. (If there is a financial difficulty, please speak with one of the directors.)

Register as soon as possible. We will begin class placements in the beginning of June and placements will be made on a first come, first served basis. **We cannot consider requests for a child to be placed with a particular catechist or other child except for a serious medical or other situation.**

Any registration received after **July 15th** will be charged a late fee of **\$25** and placements will be made by availability. A registration received after **August 20th** will incur a **\$50 late fee**. Additionally, these submissions will be collected and considered as we are able. Fulfillment, when possible, may be announced as late as the week of September 18th.

Any family requesting a change of class day/time after **September 1st** must submit that request in writing with the **Change Request Form** and with a change fee payment of **\$15** per incident to the RE/YM office. Requests made by phone or email will not be considered. **Changes to existing registrations will be given priority over late registrations.** We will accommodate requests as best we can, but there is no guarantee we will be able to fulfill every one.

New parish families are exempt from late fees.

Schedule letters will be mailed home in mid-August. Kindergarten thru 8th grade classes will begin the week of September 11th. Freshmen and Sophomores will tentatively kick off on Sunday, August 27th.