

August 25, 2021

Dear Parents of Religious Education Students,

Most families are busy preparing for the return to school and extracurricular activities this week; we look forward to seeing your children very soon for religious education classes. Over 150 families have registered and we expect many more registrations to arrive soon. **Currently the 4th, 6th and 8th grade classes are full on Sunday.** There are still openings in all Monday and Wednesday classes. For those who have not yet registered, we look forward to hearing from you soon. Please get your registrations in before August 31 to avoid a late fee. Please click here for required forms: [Registration Form](#), [Student Information Sheet](#), and [Participation Waiver](#).

Due to the State Health Commissioner Order of Public Health Emergency with requirement that masks be worn in all K-12 schools (issued August 12, 2021), we have made some adjustments to religious education plans and requirements for the upcoming school year.

https://www.governor.virginia.gov/media/governorvirginiagov/governor-of-virginia/pdf/PHE-Order_K-12-8-12-2021.pdf

Please note the following important points:

- Similar to last year, please understand that there is some risk to your child from COVID-19 when sending them to religious education classes; therefore, a [participation waiver](#) will again be required for all students. Parents are asked to fill out this form and bring it on the first day of class.
- All religious education students should abide by the public health order released on August 12, which requires masks for students in grades K-12.
- We have extended our homeschool option for parents who choose to work at home with their children in Grades 1 through 8. All parents who homeschool will be asked to attend a meeting this fall. Additionally, if your child is preparing for a sacrament in Grades 2, 7 or 8 there will be several required in-person meetings in the building throughout the year.
- Whatever class option parents choose, we ask that students complete the entire school year in that program. (i.e. You may not switch to in-class instruction if you begin with the homeschooling option.)
- Persons do have an option to request a mask accommodation for [religious beliefs](#) or [medical reasons](#). Please click on the provided links for more information and forms. **Completed and signed forms must be presented to the Director of Religious Education in person before the start of classes.** Please call the Religious Education office with questions, 540-338-4497.

If you decide to change your religious education option for this school year (i.e. switch to the homeschool option), please notify our office immediately so we can adjust our catechist needs and class availability.

Thank you for your continued commitment to teach your children about Our Lord and the beautiful Church He gave us. We are honored to support you with this important work.

As always, let's continue to pray for each other!

Kim Livaudais
Director of Religious Education

Janice Rees
Coordinator of Religious Education
LETTER