

St Francis de Sales Office of Religious Education

Volunteer Position Description

The religious education program at Saint Francis de Sales requires the assistance of numerous volunteers to work effectively. Below is a description of each volunteer position.

Catechist/Teacher – leads a weekly lesson for students to help them develop a deeper understanding of the doctrines and principles of the Catholic Faith.

Grades 1-8: the catechist utilizes different means to convey the Faith and teach the standards of learning set by the Arlington Diocese to students. This is primarily accomplished using Word of Life, Augustine Institute, and Spirit of Truth, Sophia Institute series. Grades 7 & 8 also use a source from the Didache Series for Confirmation preparation.

Sacramental grades: Communion I and II are taught in 1st and 2nd grade respectively. The Sacrament of Penance and Holy Communion are received in the second grade. Confirmation I and II are taught in grades 7 and 8. The Sacrament of Confirmation is received in the spring of eighth grade.

Classroom Aide: assists the teacher with the logistics of running a weekly class-attendance, classroom management, checking homework, etc. Assistants may periodically teach a class in the absence of the teacher.

Hall Monitor: Maintains safety and order among students and directs visitors in the hallways during arrival, class time, and departure. Also helps supervise fire and other emergency drills. Two hall monitors are needed for each session.

Substitute Teacher: Steps in for the teacher to continue leading a lesson for the class. It is extremely important to have multiple volunteers on the substitute list for each RE session.

All minors who are volunteers in the RE program need to contact the RE office directly to volunteer. They will be assigned to a classroom according to their experience and capabilities under the supervision of an adult volunteer. If credit for service hours is needed, a full year of service is required.

If you are interested in any of these roles, please contact the Religious Education office at re@saintfrancisparish.org, or call 540-338-4497. Please note that all volunteers must be VIRTUS certified through the Diocese of Arlington prior to volunteering. Teen volunteers under the age of 18 are not required to have VIRTUS.

Volunteer catechists and classroom assistants with students in the program receive free tuition for the year they volunteer. Hallway monitors receive a 50% discount on registration.