

PERU RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

STUDENT HANDBOOK

FEES

The first child is \$100.00; each additional child is \$35.00. There is an additional fee of \$20.00 for both First Communion and Confirmation students. For grades 6-8 there is an additional \$8.00 fee for a Bible and an additional \$60.00 fee for non-parishioners of St. Joseph's, St. Mary's, or St. Valentine's parishes. There is a \$24.00 fee for lost books. Please make checks payable to St. Joseph's Catholic Church.

Fees cover books and materials for students and teachers, the cost of sacrament pins, certificates, a retreat for confirmands, resources for teachers, in-service for teachers, utilities in the school, etc. It is evident that the fees do not completely cover the costs of the Religious Education Program. Consideration is also given to the fact that teachers and aides are volunteering their time.

Sacraments

Second Graders – will receive the Sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation and they make their First Communion. Other important meetings include the Parent's Meeting, Holy Thursday Mass, and First Communion Practice. See calendar for dates.

Eighth Graders – Confirmation will be conferred on those who have completed all the academic requirements as well as 20 Service Hours. These requirements will be discussed at the initial class meeting. Other important meetings include the Parent's Meeting, Confirmation Retreat, and Confirmation Practice. Candidates for Confirmation must have received the sacraments of Baptism, Penance and Holy Eucharist.

All CCD Students – must have a consistent weekly class attendance and **weekly attendance at Mass**. Students are required to sign-in in the back of the church (any of the three Peru parishes), or the family envelopes can also be used to track attendance. Students who are not at Mass more often than not will be dismissed from the program.

Calendar

Each family will receive a calendar of class dates at the time of registration. All classes will be held on Wednesday from 5:15 - 6:30 p.m. We ask parents to please come five minutes earlier than dismissal time to be there when the children are dismissed.

Drop-off/Pickup

Students will enter and exit through Peru Catholic School's main doors on 5th Street.

Attendance/Tardiness

It is important in any educational program that students regularly attend to ensure their progress. It is not only necessary that the students attend each class, but it is equally important that they be on time for each class. Parental cooperation is anticipated to ensure that absences are at a minimum. Parents assume the responsibility of letting the teacher know whenever their child(ren) will not be in class. More than three unexcused absences or 5 tardies (more than 15 minutes late) will result in the following:

- Student will be placed in the Home School Program
- If student is not fulfilling the Home School requirements, they will then be removed from the program

The same holds true for the Home School Program. If the student is not fulfilling the Home School requirements, they will first need to switch to the in-class program. If they fail to meet the in-class requirements, they then will be removed from the program.

For the safety of our children the doors will be locked by 5:25. If you are late and unable to get in, you may try and reach me on my cell phone at (815) 481-1038. Please understand that this is a busy time and I may not always

hear my cell phone or have it on me. Unfortunately, if you are unable to reach me to be let in, this will count as an absence.

Conduct

The hour and fifteen minutes that the children have a religious education is a precious commodity. Therefore, we request that the parents make their children aware that good moral conduct and courteous behavior is expected toward their teacher and fellow students.

Student Expectations

1. Enter and exit in an orderly fashion through the main school entrance from the parking lot on 5th Street.
2. Students are to find a seat upon entrance to the classroom.
3. No, Gum, candy or drinks are to be brought into the school.
4. If cell phones are brought into the school, students will need to turn them off, if necessary cell phones may need to be turned into the teacher. They will be returned to the students after each class.
5. Students are to bring their textbooks to every class. Sixth through Eighth-grade students are to bring their bibles.
6. Students are reminded that the rooms and desks they use for the class are shared with the children attend Peru Catholic.
7. Students are expected to respect the property of the school and the other students. Parents and students will be responsible for any damage.

Responsibilities of Parents

The success of any religious education program depends on the responsibility, interest, and support taken by parents. We ask that you take an active interest in your child's faith development. Parents are responsible for seeing that:

1. Child(ren) attend class,
2. Mastery of grade level prayers,
3. Homework is completed. If your child is absent, please contact the teacher for any missed work,
4. Textbook and bible (Grade 6-8) are brought to class each week,
5. Students participate at weekly Sunday Mass at all grade levels and develops a sense of stewardship,
6. The parents set a good example of practicing their faith.

Change of Information or Questions

Please notify Kristi Bejster (815) 481-1038 if you should move or change your telephone number, or if you should have any questions or concerns.