

Most Precious Blood of Jesus Parish

Regulations for the Catechism Program 2023 — 2024

The parish Catechism Program is intended to aid parents in their first responsibility to educate their children in the Faith. Participation in the Catechism Program is, therefore, entirely voluntary and is in no way required for reception of the sacraments. ("Family catechesis precedes, accompanies, and enriches other forms of instruction in the faith." CCC ¶12226)

Readiness and Eligibility for Sacraments

Each child's readiness for reception of the sacraments of Penance, Holy Communion and Confirmation is determined by an interview conducted by the pastor or his delegate. Parents must be registered members of Most Precious Blood of Jesus Parish in order for their children to receive those sacraments in the parish.

Age requirements

Children are eligible to enter the Kindergarten class in the calendar year during which the child turns five years old.

Example: Students born during 2018 are eligible for the Kindergarten class entering in Sept. 2023.

If a student enters the program at a higher grade level, the teacher may subsequently place the student at a lower level, or keep the student back one year, until the student demonstrates a level of understanding equivalent to that grade level. If parents question the teacher's decision, they should contact the program administrator, who will refer the matter for a final decision by the Pastor.

Class Times

Classes start promptly at **9:25 a.m.** and end at **10:15 a.m.** Students are not permitted upstairs until 9:20 a.m. Parents should make sure that their children are in the classrooms by 9:25 a.m., with their books and completed assignments.

Attendance

Mindful of the fact that the teachers graciously donate their time and efforts in preparing for each class, regular attendance by every student is strongly encouraged. If a parent is aware in advance that a student will be absent from a particular class, the parent should notify the teacher as soon as possible.

Students with Special Needs

In the case of a student with special needs, the general policies at Most Precious Blood of Jesus Parish are as follows:

1. Each student is expected to sit in class with sufficient self-control so as not to distract others or disrupt the instruction taking place.
2. Parents are not permitted to remain in the classroom for the purpose of controlling the behavior of a child.
3. The parish will attempt, upon request, to place any student with special needs into a catechetical program at another parish of the Diocese of Pittsburgh which has a dedicated class for children with such needs.

Emergency Class Cancellations

Classes will be held in accordance with the schedule issued at the start of the school year. In the event of inclement weather, parents should check the Flocknote message system or the parish website (*MPBOJ.com* or *mostpreciousbloodparish.org*) to learn if classes are cancelled.

Parental Responsibilities

Parents are expected to assist with cleanup of the common areas in the school facility, at the conclusion of each class session. Families are assigned this duty via a schedule which is posted in the building. Please be sure to note which date(s) your family is assigned.

For students in Kindergarten through Fourth Grade, at least one parent must remain in the school building while classes are in session. At such a tender age, should an emergency occur, we will need to find the child's parent without delay.

Cost of the Program:

In order to offset the cost of student materials, each family is expected to pay a registration fee each year, at the time of registration. The fee is \$15 per student, with a maximum fee of \$45 for three or more students. If payment of the fee is a financial burden, please contact the Pastor or program administrator.