



GUIDELINES

for our

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND SACRAMENTAL FORMATION PROGRAM FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR SEPTEMBER 2023-2024



Nativity of Our Lord Parish,
Duryea, Pennsylvania

GENERAL INFORMATION – ALL PARISH CHILDREN

ENROLLMENT AND ATTENDANCE

- ❖ ALL students and parents are to attend Mass each Sunday and Holy Day. This is asked of every Catholic, and is a precept of the Church. Our parish youth have the opportunity to minister as readers, ushers, cantors, etc. (Youth Mass) as scheduled throughout the year. Attending Mass each Sunday is a grave obligation for all baptized Catholics, a precept of the Catholic Church, and also a very important part of the religious education process. Masses are 4:00 p.m. Saturday, 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. Sunday, and 7:00 p.m. Sunday evening. We are excited to see you there!
- ❖ All children in Grades 1-8 are obliged to be enrolled and attend *either* a Catholic School *or* our Parish Religious Ed Program (CCD) and attend all classes as scheduled. There is no “break” after First Communion from participating. Registration alone does not add up to a journey of Faith Formation, just as buying a ticket is not the same as being at a concert or movie. In other words, children must attend classes and practices. Attendance is kept, and absences must be kept to a minimum.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

- ❖ Those preparing for First Holy Communion are to be enrolled and participating for two (2) years prior to the reception of the sacrament, or in the case of Confirmation, are expected to participate in classes from grades 3-8+ (proof from previous pastor in the case of new enrollment). Parent sessions prior to the reception of Sacraments are mandatory. Proof of Baptism if other than our former Duryea parishes (HRC, SHofJ, SJ ~ now Nativity of Our Lord) is necessary for sacraments.
- ❖ Students, both in public and catholic schools, will participate in several formation sessions as scheduled throughout the year, as well as retreats and special service projects. These sessions are not a class, but are rather an experience of some aspect of the Catholic Faith, parish community, etc.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR STUDENTS IN PUBLIC OR OTHER NON-CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Grades 1-5

- ❖ CCD Classes for grades K-5 will be held every Sunday as per the schedule, from 9:45-10:45 a.m.
- ❖ **Arrival** and drop-off your child(ren) at the front school doors between 9:30-9:45 a.m. The doors will be open for convenience at 9:30 a.m. to drop off your child(ren). All students should proceed to the gym upon arrival. For your child's safety, the doors will be locked at 9:50 a.m. and require a monitor to allow entrance.
- ❖ **Dismissal** will be at 10:45 a.m.

Grades 6-8

- ❖ CCD Classes for Grades 6-8 meet on Sunday evenings, about every other week, from 5:15-6:45 p.m.
- ❖ **Arrival** and drop-off your child(ren) at the front church doors between 5:00 and 5:15 p.m. Grade 6 meets in the Rectory, and Grades 7 and 8 meet in the school Library and Fine Arts Room, both off the Cafeteria. They will enter and exit through the side door of the church, by the little wall.
- ❖ **Dismissal** will be at 10:45 a.m.

Parents, you are asked to be very careful dropping off or picking up your child(ren). It is always busy on Stephenson Street. Make sure the children walk on sidewalks, use the marked crosswalks, and enter the school through the front doors. Also, please be courteous to our neighbors, and avoid blocking their driveways, etc.

STUDENT SUPPLIES, CLASS BEHAVIOR, AND STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

- ❖ Your child will be supplied with a book that they are responsible to bring weekly. Please bring a pencil or pen, and other things as directed by the teacher.
- ❖ Periodically, students will be given "take-home" information/schedules and other items. We ask that parents check folders each week. These items will also be posted on our Parish web page or Facebook.
- ❖ Your child should be prepared for class by completing assigned work (especially memorizing assigned prayers and other material). It is your responsibility to get your child's missed work from their teacher or their friends/classmates, and to go over their prayers with them, even daily.
- ❖ Your child is expected to behave in a respectful manner toward fellow students, parishioners, clergy, teachers, and aides.

COMMUNICATION/ABSENCE FROM CLASS
CALLING OFF SICK

- ❖ As mentioned, children are provided with a Blue Folder – Please check it each week. Also check the parish emails, web page, or parish Facebook.
- ❖ A written excuse is necessary to excuse a child early from any class. This is a safety measure.
- ❖ A telephone call to report your child(ren) off from a Sunday or extra class/practice would be well appreciated – if possible, a day ahead – to Miss Nitowski (570-457-3502).
- ❖ Formation sessions, retreats, prayer services and Masses in preparation for the sacraments are mandatory. Please let us know in advance of any issues.

REGISTRATION AND OTHER FEES

Registration fee: \$40.00 First child--
\$75.00 for 2 or more in a family.
Sacramental fees are \$20.00 for each child, each sacrament.

Registration forms are due Before Class Begins, and fees are due by September . **Fees can be late for good reason – registration cannot be late.** Cash is accepted. Checks should be made payable to Nativity of Our Lord Parish.

*This is a changeable/growing list of guidelines
subject to adjustments or additions if needed
throughout the year.*

Our Program...

Conforms to all Diocesan directives and guidelines for Religious Education

Students experience the faith first-hand through instruction and seasonal activities

Students are taught in modern, technologically equipped
classrooms complete with Smartboards, through the continued cooperation of
Holy Rosary School

All volunteers have completed VIRTUS (Protect Our Children) training through the Diocese and also have State clearances and Mandated Reporter Training (Criminal Record Check and PA Child Abuse History Clearance).

Through participation in our program, our students gain
friendships and a bond to others
and to their parish community ... a gift of faith that will last throughout their lives.



Nativity of Our Lord Parish Religious Education Program

Rev. Michael M. Bryant, Pastor
Rectory Office
570-457-3502
mbryant@nativityduryea.org

Miss Amanda Nitowski
Coordinator of Rel. Ed.
anitowski@nativityduryea.org

127 Stephenson Street
Duryea, PA 18642
Web: www.nativityduryea.org
Email: rectory@nativityduryea.org

 **Nativityduryea**