

St. Petronille Religious Education Family Handbook



**St. Petronille Parish
Religious Education Office
420 Glenwood Ave.
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137**

(630) 858-3796 x4000 (630) 858-6232 FAX
St. Petronille Website <https://www.stpetschurch.org/>

Revised 8/25/22

GENERAL CONTACT INFORMATION

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STAFF

Julie Knox	Director of Religious Education	(630) 858-3796 x4109 knoxj@stpetschurch.org
Jenna Hojnicky	Asst. Director of Religious Education	(630) 858-3796 x4000 hojnickyj@stpetschurch.org
Kathy Stiegal	Gr. 1-8 Program Assistant	(630) 858-3796 x4111 stiegalk@stpetschurch.org

PARISH OFFICE

Jessica Payne	Parish Office Manager	(630) 469-0404 x2000
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PASTORAL STAFF

Fr. Thomas Milota	Pastor	(630) 469-0404 x2100 frmilota@outlook.com
Fr. Les Prebendowski	Parochial Vicar	(630) 469-0404 x2101 lprebendowski@gmail.com
Fr. John Sullivan	Senior Priest	(630) 849-5006

ST. PETRONILLE SCHOOL

Eric Schmidt	Principal	(630) 469-5041 x3000 schmidte@stpetschool.org
Jennifer Wardynski	Assistant Principal	(630) 469-5041 x3103 wardynskij@stpetschool.org

YOUNG ADULTS / YOUTH MINISTRY

Carina Greico		(630) 469-0404 x2106 greicoc@stpetschurch.org
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ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Kathy Aabram		(630) 469-0404 x2107 aabramk@stpetschurch.org
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ALTAR SERVERS (Grades 5 and up)

Deacon John Spezio		(630) 469-0404 x2105
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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE HOURS

- Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 9:00am – 4:30pm
- Wednesday 1:00pm-9:00pm

Religious Education staff will be in the office at other hours! Please call for an appointment.

Please note: To visit our offices, use the intercom system to enter the Parish Office door #3 at 420 Glenwood Ave.



ST. PETRONILLE PARISH

420 Glenwood Avenue, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

(630) 469-0404

www.stpetschurch.org

Dear Saint Petronille Parent,

"Let the children come to me and do not hinder them."

We are honored that you have made the decision to entrust your child's formation to the faculty, staff and priests of Saint Petronille Religious Education. Your child is a precious gift of God and we cherish that gift.

You have provided the best for your child: a roof over their head, food in their stomachs and the best education you can provide. Sending your child to Religious Education here at Saint Petronille tells us that you are also concerned with that which you cannot see. You are concerned with Faith and Hope and Love. You desire not only to nourish their bodies and minds but also their immortal souls.

Saint Petronille strives to accomplish this goal not as a group of isolated individuals struggling alone but as a family drawing on the profound talent of our members: parents, students, teachers, administration and priests. All bring a wealth of talent and vision propelling Saint Petronille through the Third Christian Millennium.

The formation provided by Saint Petronille aims to prepare your child to live motivated by a goal transcending the here and now. When God enters their life in a real and transcendent way, your child knows and understands that they are known and loved even in life's dark moments. They know they are never alone. As a loving mother or father, you give your child a gift that lasts not only a life time but an eternity. We are privileged to accompany you and your child on the first, most important, chapter of their life pilgrimage. Thank you!

You and your child are in my prayers daily. If I can ever be of help to you, please do not hesitate to contact me at Saint Petronille Parish (630-469-0404, ext. 2100, frmilota@outlook.com).

In Christ,

Fr. Thomas Milota



ST. PETRONILLE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

420 Glenwood Avenue, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

(630) 858-3796 Ext. 4000

religiouseducation@stpetschurch.org

www.stpetschurch.org

September 2022

Hello St. Petronille Religious Education Families!

Welcome to the start of our new Religious Education year!

Textbooks and Bibles

Each child will receive a grade level textbook, to be used in every Religious Education class. Please stress the importance of bringing the textbook, RE folder, and Bible (Grade 4-8) to each class. Use the backpack provided to keep everything together. A bit of good organization will go a long way!

Attendance

If your child is absent, please read the chapter(s) that were missed and complete the worksheets that your child will receive the next time they are present at class. Stay on top of missed classes.

Communication

The majority of communications from the Religious Education Office will be via email, usually from religiouseducation@stpetschurch.org. PLEASE add us to your safe senders list so that our messages reach you and are not sent to spam or junk folders.

Messages are sent to the email you provided on your registration form. If you would like to add additional email addresses, contact Jenna Hojnicky hojnickyj@stpetschurch.org.

Health and Safety Protocols

- St. Petronille Religious Education will prioritize an immersive RE experience for our students in the 2022-2023 school year.
- We ask that students and staff who are experiencing symptoms associated with COVID-19 infection stay home from Religious Education to avoid infecting others.
- Anyone in our community who tests positive for COVID-19 will be required to isolate at home for 5 days and wear a mask during the 5 days following.
- Masking will be optional for all students, staff, and visitors to the St. Petronille Religious Education program, except for individuals in their first 5 days after returning from isolation due to a positive test.
- We understand that maintaining COVID safety in the RE program remains fluid, and we are prepared to make adjustments as needed. We also realize some protocols about specific situations may change due to forthcoming revisions of CDC guidelines.

Family Participation

Please check RE backpacks weekly and help your child stay organized.

Review the worksheets and the “Good News You Can Use” newsletter. Display artwork, discuss the topics, review the prayers, discuss the featured Saint of the week, talk about the upcoming Sunday Gospel, and any liturgical calendar information. Continue to learn and share the faith at home, together, as a family. ☺

Regular Sunday Mass attendance is expected of all Religious Education families.

Keep Sunday holy, and make Mass attendance a “non-negotiable” for your family. Children’s Missals and books will help your children understand and learn more about the Holy Mass.

Pray as a family.

Say grace before dinner and form a habit of saying bedtime prayers. Bless your children with holy water in the morning before they start their day. Try praying a decade of the rosary together.

Frequent Reconciliation

Confession cleans your soul, brings much needed peace to families, and is a great grace from Our Lord. Go as a family, and celebrate afterward!

Read the chapters ahead of each class.

Reading together will prepare your child for class discussion, and you will learn more too! It’s a great way to spend quality faith sharing time.

Build a Catholic library of books for all ages.

The Religious Education Office can provide fabulous book recommendations for family members of all ages.

Let your home reflect your faith.

Display a crucifix, statues of Jesus, Blessed Mother Mary, St. Joseph, and your favorite Saints. Set up a prayer corner and keep prayer books, holy cards, a rosary, and holy water accessible.



Jesus...said to them,
"Let the children come to me; do
not prevent them, for the kingdom
of God belongs to such as these."
-Mark 10:14-15

Thank you for entrusting your children to our Religious Education program. We look forward to working closely with you!

Sincerely in Christ,

Julie Knox
Director of Religious Education
knoxj@stpetchurch.org
(630) 858-3796 x4109

Religious Education At-A-Glance Calendar 2022-2023

Grades 1 - 8

Wednesdays 4:15pm-5:30pm / 6pm-7:15pm / 7:30-8:45pm

Sep	14	Parent Open House in Parish Center and Students in Classrooms
	21	Class Night
	28	6pm Program Opening Mass – attend as a family in church
Oct	5	Class Night
	12	NO CLASS – Catechist Evening of Formation
	19	Class Night
	26	Class Night
Nov	2	Class Night
	9	Class Night
	16	Class Night
	23	NO CLASS – Happy Thanksgiving!
	30	Class Night
Dec	7	NO CLASS – Feast of the Immaculate Conception
	14	Class Night
	21	NO CLASS – Merry Christmas!
	28	NO CLASS – Happy New Year!
Jan	4	Class Night
	11	Class Night
	18	Class Night
	25	Class Night
Feb	1	Class Night
	8	Class Night
	15	Class Night
	22	Ash Wednesday Family Prayer Service – attend as a family at 4:15pm or 6pm
Mar	1	Class Night
	8	Class Night
	15	Class Night
	22	Class Night
	29	NO CLASS – Spring Break
Apr	5	NO CLASS – Holy Week
	12	Class Night
	19	Class Night
	26	Class Night
May	3	6pm Program Closing Mass – attend as a family

- ❖ Please refer to your grade level calendars (distributed on the first night of class) for special grade-specific events (parent nights, retreats, etc.).
- ❖ Grades 2 and 8 do have additional sacrament-related events that take place on days other than Wednesday. Please refer to your grade level or Confirmation calendar for the dates of those events.

Sacramental Preparation for First Reconciliation & First Holy Communion

According to the Diocese of Joliet, two years of sacramental preparation are required before receiving sacraments. Additionally, the child must be a baptized Catholic or have made a Profession of Faith to be received into full communion of the Catholic Church. Please call the Religious Education office with questions or concerns.

Sacrament of First Reconciliation

- **Parent Meeting for First Reconciliation – attend one (1)**
 - Thursday 10-20-22 7 pm -OR-
 - Thursday 10-27-22 7 pm

- **Dates for the Sacrament of First Reconciliation – alphabetical assignment**
 - Thursday 12-1-22 6 pm
 - Saturday 12-3-22 9:30 am

Sacrament of First Holy Communion

- **Parent Meeting for First Holy Communion – attend one (1)**
 - Thursday 2-2-23 7 pm -OR-
 - Thursday 2-9-23 7 pm

- **First Holy Communion Retreat**
 - Saturday 4-15-23 9 am until 11:30am

- **Reconciliation & Rehearsal for First Holy Communion**
 - Tuesday 4-25-23 6 pm for those celebrating at 10 am Mass
 - Thursday 4-27-23 6 pm for those celebrating at 1 pm Mass

- **The Sacrament of First Holy Communion – time choice preference slips available at Parent Meetings**
 - Saturday 4-29-23 10 am and 1 pm

The commitment of the parents entails a commitment to assist the child in practicing their Catholic faith including the following of the precepts of the Catholic Church, the regular reception of the Sacraments, and Sunday attendance at Mass each week.



Sacramental Preparation for Confirmation

Our parish prepares St. Petronille School and Religious Education students for the Sacrament of Confirmation together, with the assistance of Confirmation Mentors, staff, and clergy. We meet approximately once per month, from September through March. These classes are in addition to St. Petronille School or Religious Education classes, and a separate registration is required. Per the Diocese of Joliet, two years of sacramental preparation are required prior to being confirmed; generally, this occurs in Grade 7 and Grade 8; however, individual plans may be created for special circumstances. All Candidates must attend a Confirmation Retreat.

Preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation is a process of faith-filled learning and ongoing conversion, focusing on an encounter with Jesus Christ, and leading toward full initiation into the Catholic Church. The topics of prayer, the Eucharist, the Holy Spirit, the Sacrament of Confirmation, and the mission God has for them, will be discussed via small group discussion and *Decision Point* materials from Dynamic Catholic.

Sunday, 9-25-22	5-8pm	Intro to Confirmation	(Parents & Candidates)
Sunday, 10-16-22	5-8pm	Prayer	(Candidates only)
Sunday, 11-6-22	5-8pm	The Eucharist	(Candidates only)
Sunday, 12-11-22	5-8pm	The Holy Spirit	(Sponsors & Candidates)
Friday, 1-27-23	5-9pm	Confirmation Retreat	(Candidates only)
Sunday, 2-5-23	5-8pm	The Sacrament of Confirmation	(Candidates only)
Tuesday, 2-14-23	3:15 – 7:30 pm	Confirmation Interviews	(20 min. time slots)
Tuesday, 2-28-23	6-7:30pm	Reconciliation & Confirmation Rehearsal	
		-or-	
Thursday, 3-2-22	6-7:30pm	Reconciliation & Confirmation Rehearsal	

March 2023: anticipated Confirmation, pending scheduling by the Diocese of Joliet Office of Divine Worship.



Individual Sacrament Plan

If your child has not been baptized or is over the age of eight and has not yet received the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion, please make an appointment with the Director of Religious Education, Julie Knox.

An Individual Sacrament Plan can be created for your child. The commitment of the parent entails a commitment to assist the child in practicing their Catholic faith, including the following of the precepts of the Catholic Church, the regular reception of the Sacraments, and Sunday attendance at Mass each week.

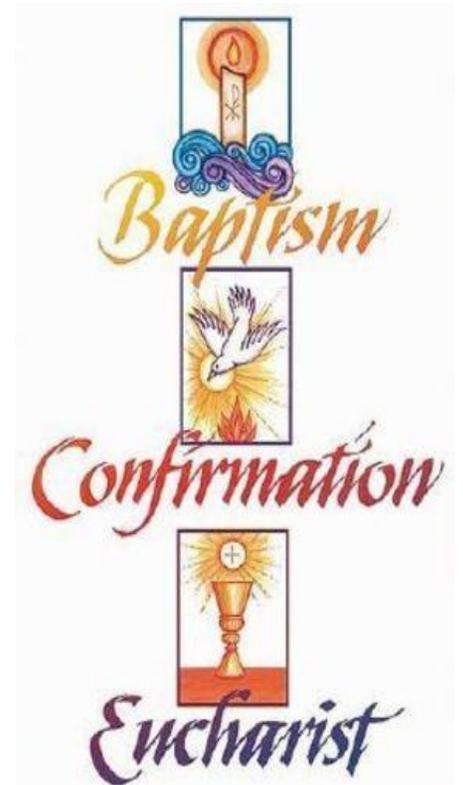
Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults is the process through which adults can inquire and become a full member of the Catholic Church. It is an invitation to adults who are not Catholic to be baptized and receive the Sacraments.

Adult Faith Formation is available for all scenarios of baptized Catholics and non-Catholics who wish to prepare to receive the Sacraments and enter into full communion with the Catholic Church.

To request information about Adult Faith Formation, please contact:

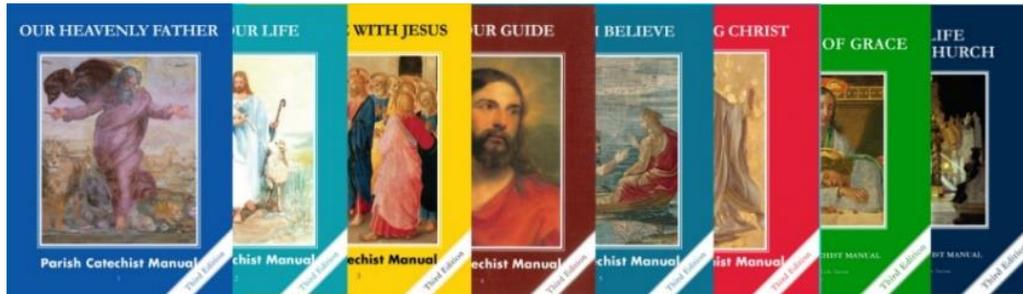
Kathy Aabram
Adult Faith Coordinator
aabramk@stpetschurch.org
(630) 469-0404 x2107



ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS
a journey of faith

Curriculum

We will continue to use the ***Faith and Life*** curriculum from Ignatius Press. The *Faith and Life* catechetical series is a comprehensive program that is rich in content, and engages students, catechists, and parents through sacred art, Catholic devotionals, lives of the saints, and effective discussion on life application.



- Grade 1:** ***Our Heavenly Father***
An invitation to know, love and trust God and His love story.
- Grade 2:** ***Jesus Our Life***
Preparation for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion.
- Grade 3:** ***Out Life With Jesus***
A special emphasis on God’s love and mercy in the Sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist.
- Grade 4:** ***Jesus Our Guide***
The narrative of salvation history points students towards Jesus Christ who fulfills Old Testament prophecies.
- Grade 5:** ***Credo: I Believe***
A study of the Creed. Students come to understand that they must stand firm in their faith.
- Grade 6:** ***Following Christ***
Part 1: Morality – The Ten Commandments and Beatitudes.
Part 2: The Holy Mass
- Grade 7:** ***The Life of Grace***
Salvation History and a study of the seven sacraments as channels of God’s grace.
- Grade 8:** ***Our Life in the Church – Confirmation***
A study on the Church followed by the call to holiness through virtue, works of mercy, vocation, and social justice.

Prayers to Memorize

Grade 1	The Sign of the Cross, Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be
Grade 2	Act of Contrition
Grade 3	Apostles' Creed, the Seven Sacraments
Grade 4	Act of Contrition, the Ten Commandments, Nicene Creed
Grade 5	Beatitudes, Nicene Creed, The Confiteor
Grade 6	Nicene Creed, Grace Before Meals
Grade 7	Nicene Creed, Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy, Beatitudes, The Confiteor
Grade 8	Nicene Creed, Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy, Beatitudes, The Confiteor

All prayers from previous years are expected to be memorized.



Religious Education Board

The mission of the Religious Education Board of St. Petronille Parish is to advise the Pastor and the parish religious education staff. The Board shall promote and support an environment that invites and engages lifelong faith formation for all members of the parish community through the message of Jesus Christ.

The St. Petronille Religious Education Board is advisory to the Pastor who has final approval of its activities. Its purpose is to develop and define the vision of St. Petronille's religious education ministries. The Board shall promote, develop and implement policies, as well as give direction to and govern the operation of the parish programs for lifelong faith formation. These ministries include, but are not limited to, Grades 1-8 Religious Education, Young Adult / Youth Ministry and Adult Faith Formation.

The Board consists of seven to nine voting members and five ex-officio members. Ex-officio members are the Pastor, the School Principal, the Director of Religious Education, the Young Adult/Youth Minister, and the Director of Adult Faith Formation. Terms are for three years with two members added in June of each year.

The members of the 2022 – 2023 Religious Education Board are:

Megan Lowrie – *President*
Merry Coyle – *Co-Secretary*
Megan Curi – *Board Member*

Eileen Buccola – *Parish Council Liaison*
Diana Laufenberg – *Co-Secretary*

The members of the Religious Education Board welcome comments regarding all Religious Education programs. In-person meetings are held in the Staff Work Room in the Parish Office (Door #3). All meetings begin at 6:30 pm. Please contact the President, Megan Lowrie, at meganlowrie@me.com, to place an item on the agenda.

Meeting dates for 2022/2023 are:

Tuesday, August 23
Tuesday, September 13
Tuesday, October 11
Tuesday, November 8
Tuesday, January 10

Tuesday, February 7
Tuesday, March 7
Tuesday, April 11
Tuesday, May 9

Religious Education Board Policies for Grades 1-8

Parish Registration

All families with students attending the Religious Education Program must be registered as members of St. Petronille Parish or request permission from the Pastor. Parish registration forms can be requested from the Parish Office (630-469-0404).

Policy of the RE Board

Religious Education Registration

Religious Education registration forms for the upcoming school year will be sent home to all families through e-mail in the spring. They will also be available online. Class assignments will be made on a first come, first serve basis. To eliminate the possibility of a student not having materials or a catechist for the first class, we ask everyone's help and cooperation by registering before June 1. All families, please take into consideration any activities (i.e., sports, theater, and music, etc.) to avoid scheduling conflicts with Religious Education classes. The Religious Education registration form, medical release form and baptismal certificate must be on file to complete registration. *Policy of the RE Board*

Attendance Policy

- We allow for no more than **four** absences per year to successfully complete each grade level. It is recommended that parents schedule all extracurricular activities at times not conflicting with religion class. In case of illness or other serious reasons, parents are requested to call the Religious Education Office (630-858-3796 x1). Our specific attendance policy is as follows:
- If a learner misses **four (4) classes**, a make-up plan under the direction of the Religious Education Office and the parent must be completed covering the missed material, followed by an appointment with a member of the Religious Education Staff to review completed material. Completion of the plan makes it possible for the learner to continue to the next grade and to avoid a delay in the reception of a sacrament (First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion, Confirmation).
- **Continued attendance from year to year is expected.** Students who have missed more than one year of religious education will be assessed to determine proper placement and may not be necessarily placed in their current public school grade level. This may result in the student being "out of sync" with their peers. An individual plan will be formulated by the Director of Religious Education, which may include make-up work over a summer, or making up an entire year, depending on the situation. It is important to remember that sacramental preparation requires two years of faith formation, and that entry into Grade 7 is not guaranteed if a child has missed Grades 3-6.
- A student attending class is **expected to attend the entire class**. Early dismissals are discouraged, as they are disruptive to the entire class. Any student leaving the campus

without permission will need to have a parent conference with the Director and Pastor before being allowed to return to class.

Policy of the RE Board

Mass Attendance

Students in all grade levels are expected to attend Sunday Mass each week.

Policy of the RE Board

Twin Placement

Twins, higher order multiples, or siblings that are in the same grade level of Religious Education will be assigned together unless the parent/guardian requests them to be in separate classrooms. In the event that the decided placement is determined to be disruptive to the classroom within a school year, the Pastor, Director and/or Catechist reserve the right to determine alternative placement for siblings.

Policy of the RE Board

Progress Reports, and Conferences

Progress Reports: Students will receive progress reports twice a year. Students receiving an INC due to absence or failure to complete the memorization requirements for their grade will meet with the Director during the summer to satisfactorily complete the work before being placed in the next level.

Conferences with the Catechist or Director are available during the year at the request of the parent.

Policy of the RE Board

Discipline

Christian behavior is expected at all grade levels at all times. This includes entering and leaving the building as well as time spent in the classroom. All students will be respectful toward each other, the catechists and the property of St. Petronille.

- Unacceptable behavior will first be handled at the catechist level (may include a parent phone call).
- If the problem persists, the student will meet with the Director / an Assistant.
- In the event the student sees the Director / an Assistant a second time, a parent conference will be requested.
- Serious misconduct will result in a parent conference with the Pastor, which must take place before the child returns to class.
 - Theft or Vandalism
Theft, vandalism or other student acts that cause damage to the property of the parish, school or other students will require a parent conference, restitution, possible suspension and/or criminal charges.

- Written, Oral or Physical Expression
Engaging in any activity that constitutes an interference with Religious Education purposes will result in a parent conference, restitution, possible suspension and/or criminal charges.
- Bullying
Any action, any form or type of aggressive behavior that does physical or psychological harm to someone else and/or urging other students to engage in such conduct. Prohibited behaviors includes, without limitation, the use of violence, force, noise, coercion, threats, intimidation, fear, bullying, hazing, public humiliation, verbal abuse or other comparable conduct. This behavior can result in disciplinary action and/or suspension/expulsion.
- Weapons
Weapons of any nature or lookalike weapons are not permitted on parish grounds at any time. Suspension or expulsion may result, and authorities contacted. A parent/guardian conference with the Director will be required before the learner can return to class.

Policy of the RE Board

Medication

The Catechist or office personnel may NOT hand out medication at any time. If there is a life-threatening illness/condition, the parent must contact the Director and complete the required medical forms before the first class.

Policy of the RE Board

Illness or Accident

Every catechist will have a pair of latex gloves and disposable towels in a zip-lock bag in their supply bin. In case clean-up is needed of any type of body fluid, the catechist needs to wear the gloves. Small clean-ups will be placed in the zip-lock bag for disposal. Maintenance needs to be contacted to complete the cleanup for larger areas. Please call extension 4000 to contact the office from your classroom. Replacement supplies need to be requested from the Religious Education Office. All student illnesses must be kept confidential unless the parent gives permission and signs a release. Be sure to read the pamphlet “Blood Pathogen” given to you at your interview.

An **ACCIDENT/INJURY/INCIDENT REPORT** must be filed in the office on the day of any kind of accident, before the catechist leaves the campus. Also, a parent/guardian must be notified on the day of the report.

Policy of the RE Board

Health and Safety

The St. Petronille Religious Education Program is committed to the health and safety of all students, volunteers, and staff members. Therefore, the health-related guidance provided by the Diocese of Joliet and local health authorities will always be followed. If protocols change during a school year, the Religious Education Office will communicate the new information in a timely manner to all program families.

Policy of the RE Board

Rights of Non-Custodial Parents

The parish catechetical program abides by the provisions of the Buckley Amendment with respect to the rights of non-custodial parents. In the absence of a court order to the contrary, the non-custodial parent needs to request student information. The office will provide unofficial copies of records. If there is a court order specifying that there is to be no information given, it is the responsibility of the custodial parent to provide the catechetical leader with an official copy of the court order.

Policy of the RE Board

Sacramental Preparation

Religious Education regarding the sacraments has a two-fold task: to aid in the understanding of the sacraments themselves and to foster a conscious realization of the connection between an individual's life and the sacramental life of the Church.

Diocese of Joliet Policy Handbook

At St. Petronille, sacraments are usually celebrated in:

- Grade 2 - First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion
- Grade 8 - Confirmation

Candidates normally must have satisfactorily completed **TWO** consecutive years of preparation for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion (Grades 1 & 2) and Confirmation (Grades 7 & 8).

First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion

Parental participation and attendance at special sacramental preparation meetings is an expectation of the sacramental preparation process. Parents are expected to assist their children with the assigned text reading and homework.

Confirmation

Parishioners in Grade 8 or older are invited to choose to prepare for the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation. Confirmation candidates attend their regular instruction classes in the St. Petronille Religious Education Program, St. Petronille School or a Catholic high school. In addition to these classes, a Confirmation preparation series will be presented from September through March. Attendance is expected at all Confirmation sessions, group service projects and the retreat. Parishioners will support small groups of candidates by being confirmation mentors.

Special Sacramental Preparation

- Families will meet with parish staff (Director of Religious Education, Director of Adult Faith Formation and/or School Principal) to create an appropriate sacramental plan with the final approval of the Pastor. Contact religionseducation@stpetschurch.org or (630) 858-3796 x4000.
- **High school students** who have not received their Baptism, First Communion or Confirmation must meet with the Director of Religious Education to design an

individual sacrament plan to meet the candidate’s formational needs. High school students may attend the Confirmation Series, OR participate in the OCIA process. Contact religiouseducation@stpetschurch.org or (630) 858-3796 x4000.

Policy of the RE Board

Washrooms

If it is absolutely necessary that a student needs to use the washroom, they must sign in and out of their classroom using the Restroom Sign - Out Sheet.

Policy of the RE Board

Tuition

Payment of at least ½ tuition and fees is due at time of registration.

Early Bird Religious Education Tuition (registrations received no later 7-31-22)	Religious Education Tuition (registrations received after 8-1-22)
1 Child \$ 225.00	1 Child \$ 275.00
2 Children \$ 350.00	2 Children \$ 400.00
3+ Children \$ 475.00	3+ Children \$ 525.00

Fees:

Registration fee (per family - nonrefundable)	\$35
Special Sacramental Preparation	\$100
Grade 2 First Holy Communion Preparation	\$50
Grade 4 Bible Fee	\$25
Confirmation Preparation	\$80

Tuition covers the cost of all books, supplies, and classroom expenses.

If tuition and fees are not paid in full at the time of registration, the family will be billed in October and at subsequent regular intervals by the Religious Education Office. Catechists will receive their discount on tuition on or before the January billing.

No child will be excluded from Religious Education due to financial difficulty. Any family unable to pay tuition should contact the Director of Religious Education at religiouseducation@stpetschurch.org (630-858-3796 x4109) or our Pastor (630-469-0404 x2100).

Policy of the RE Board

Catechist Communications with Minors

All contact from a catechist, whether it be via phone, text or e-mail, shall be done through the student's parent or guardian and not through the student.

Catechists are not to use multi-media, social networking websites and/or blogs to contact or converse in any way with students. The only exception is for Zoom classes sanctioned by the Religious Education Office for lessons, if needed.

To avoid legal liability, catechists should not have students keep a journal that is read by the catechists.

Remember to refer personal issues of a serious nature to the Director or an Assistant who will decide whether parents or another professional should be included in the discussion.

Policy of the RE Board

Electronic Devices

Electronic devices are NOT to be brought on campus during Religious Education activities.

The Parish is not responsible for the loss or theft of any electronic device brought to Religious Education. Electronic devices that are found during Religious Education classes will be brought to the office and held for parent pick-up. In addition, the student will receive appropriate disciplinary action.

Cell Phones

It is our preference that no cell phones are brought to class. If a parent desires a child to have a cell phone, the possession and use of cell phones are subject to the following rules:

1. They must be kept out of sight and in an inconspicuous location, such as a backpack or purse.
2. They must be **turned off** during the regular Religious Education classes.
3. They may not be used in any manner that will cause disruption to the educational environment or will otherwise violate student conduct rules unless the supervising teacher grants permission for them to be used if needed in an emergency.
4. Talking on the phone, text messaging, or taking photographs will result in the phone being sent to the office for parent pick-up.

Policy of the RE Board

Cancellation of Classes

Class cancellation in District 41 for inclement weather or emergency situations automatically cancels classes for students of the St. Petronille Religious Education Program. If possible, an e-mail will be sent to each family when classes must be cancelled.

Policy of the RE Board

Parties / Snack Policy

Class time is so limited that parties **CANNOT BE HELD**.

It is the determination of the Saint Petronille's Religious Education Board that the Religious Education Program shall be a safe environment for all children. Therefore, all Religious Education programs will be held in a snack free environment. All catechists, volunteers or parents shall not serve, distribute, provide access to, or reward students with any form of food product during Religious Education classes. This includes home prepared and pre-packaged foods. The Religious Education Board and Staff ask for parental and student cooperation and understanding.

Exceptions to this policy shall be allowed at the discretion of the Director and/or Assistants. When food is part of a lesson, parents will be informed. *Policy of the RE Board*

Visitors

For the safety of our students, volunteers and staff, **ALL** doors at St. Petronille will be locked during class hours. To visit our office, please use the intercom system to enter the doors (#3) of the Parish Office at 420 Glenwood Avenue or at designated drop-off and pick-up entrances pursuant to our access procedure. All visitors wishing to visit the classroom area will need to sign in upon arrival and wear a "Visitor" name badge.

Policy of the RE Board

Protecting God's Children

The safety of your child is of the utmost importance to us. To provide a safe environment and per the Diocese of Joliet requirements, all volunteers and paid staff that have regular contact with minors must:

- Complete the diocesan "Protecting God's Children" program
- Complete the State of Illinois DCFS Mandated reporter training
- Complete a criminal background check and provide personal references

All Religious Education families are required by the Diocese of Joliet to read the document: *Practical Advice for Parents on Preventing Child Sexual Abuse*. Please use this link to read: https://www.dioceseofjoliet.org/siteimages/reo/Safe_Environment/PGC-Parent-Handbook_05-03.doc.pdf

Please visit the Diocese of Joliet's Office of Child and Youth Service's website for more resources and information: <https://www.dioceseofjoliet.org/ct/subsectioncontent.php?secid=13&subsecid=22>.

Policy of the Diocese of Joliet

Other Diocese of Joliet Parent Recommended Resources

A Parent's Guide to Sexuality, Chastity, and Our Youth: <https://www.stpetschurch.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Sexuality-Chastity-and-Our-Youth-A-Challenge-for-Parents-Today.pdf>

Parent Guide to Internet Safety: <https://www.stpetschurch.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Internet-Safety-Guide.pdf>