

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA PARISH, NORWOOD

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION HANDBOOK

GRADES 6-8
2017 - 2018



Rev. Stephen Donohoe, Pastor
Rev. Jean Pierre Aubin, Parochial Vicar
Rev. Thomas Sullivan, Parochial Vicar

Mrs. Leah Ramsdell, Director of Religious Education and Youth Faith Formation
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Classes:

Students are expected to attend each one of the meetings over the course of the year as well as the Class Mass in March. Because of the limited number of meetings, it is imperative that students make every effort to be present and on time for each class. If your student will be absent or needs to leave early, please contact Mrs. Ramsdell as soon as possible by phone or via email. Notes excusing a student from class early are also acceptable.

Classroom Policies:

Students are expected to be respectful of the teacher and other students at all times. Cell phones should be turned off and will be turned into the classroom teacher using a Ziploc bag labeled with the student's name and placed into a bin at the front of the room per our new behavioral policy. **Should there be an emergency which requires you to get in touch with your child, please contact Mrs. Ramsdell at 617-733-7889.**

Because we are GUESTS of St. Catherine's school it is IMPERATIVE that all students be respectful of the classroom space to which they are assigned. AT NO TIME should students from the Religious Education program be touching classroom supplies, the teacher's desk, bookcases/shelves, student desks, or student property. All trash and materials used by our program should be picked up and dealt with as deemed appropriate by the Religious Education teacher.

Drop Off/Pickup Procedure:

Students are to be dropped off on Nahatan Street and enter through the school doors into the gymnasium. Students in grade 6 will be dismissed from the Siena Room into the back parking lot. Students in grades 7 and 8 will be dismissed from the Middle School building. **PLEASE BE MINDFUL OF THE ENTRANCE AND EXITS AS WELL AS THE BINGO TRAFFIC WHEN PICKING UP YOUR STUDENT.**

Inclement Weather:

In the event a class needs to be cancelled due to inclement weather a message will be left on the Religious Education phone line (781-686-7887), an email will be sent out to families if time permits, and you can also check channels 4,5, and 7.

Service/Volunteer Hour Requirements

Students in grades 6-8 are asked to **complete six (6) hours of service per year**. These may be projects that a student completes through school, with their family or at church. We will offer opportunities throughout the course of the year for students to take part in but they are also encouraged to consider what things they might do to serve/volunteer in their local communities as well. All students will be asked to complete and submit a sheet verifying the projects they have participated in throughout the course of the year. Sheets MAY NOT be signed by Religious Ed. teachers unless the work/service project was completed WITH the teacher.

Examples of service work might include the following:

Volunteering at the Norwood Food Pantry, Norwood Animal Hospital, or Norwood Public Library

Taking part in a walk which benefits a particular cause with significance for the student or their family (Walk for Breast Cancer, Alzheimer's, Diabetes etc.)

Selling tickets, concessions, distributing programs, ushering etc. at a school play, concert, or sporting event

Volunteering/assisting with a youth soccer, baseball, swim, dance, gymnastics, hockey etc. program

Raking, snow shoveling, lawn mowing for an elderly neighbor

Service/Volunteer work completed during summer 2015 can also count

Examples might include: Vacation Bible School, camp counselor, swim coach/instructor, volunteering for a youth baseball/soccer/football/basketball/gymnastics/dance camp/program

*What service work **IS NOT**:*

If you are being PAID for the job you are doing, it is NOT service.

If you are babysitting a cousin for free or shoveling your grandparent's driveway, that is NOT service.

List of Opportunities Being Offered through St. Catherine's:

Please note this list is NOT exhaustive and additional opportunities may be added throughout the year.

Various options within the Religious Education program throughout the year.

Youth Lectoring (Reading) at the Sunday, 9 a.m. Family Liturgy

Food Drive-November

Friday, March 30th-12 p.m.-Stations of the Cross @ St. Catherine's