

Welcome to St. Gertrude's Parish Religious Education Program! We are happy to partner with you as we educate your child to know and live their Christian faith.

The Church teaches that parents are the first and primary catechists of their children. Parents are asked to join us as we communicate values and attitudes by showing love for Christ and His Church and for our neighbors. The active involvement of parents in the parish, their readiness to seek opportunities to serve others, and their practice of prayer, all teach children the importance of faith.

All those who touch the life of young Catholics in some way – parents, catechists, clergy, parish volunteers, and fellow parishioners must take their role seriously and responsibly by fully living their baptismal commitment and giving witness to the place and importance of following Jesus Christ. As Catholics, we believe that a crucial aspect of this living faith is participation in the life of the Church with attendance at Sunday Mass.

- Communication: We encourage parents to be in communication with the child's Catechist. The Office of Religious Education will communicate with parents by email.
- Program Closings: If the Locust Valley School District is closed, the Religious Education Office will also be closed. In the event of a closing here due to a late storm, the office will contact you through email when classes are cancelled.
- Cell Phones/other electronic devices are not to be used at ANY time during the classes. If a child is caught using the cell phone it will be taken by the catechist. It will not be returned to the student until the end of class time.
- Behavior: Students are expected to act courteously during the hour they are here for religious instruction, and to treat their catechists with respect. Students who are asked to leave the class twice, will only be allowed to return to class with their parent with them.
- Arrival/Dismissal: All students need to enter and exit the school building through the doors by the Religious Education Office. Parents will pick up the students in front of the building.
- Visitors: No unauthorized persons will be allowed in the classroom unless they have been previously authorized by the Catechetical Leader.

We are grateful to the families who have chosen to partner with us as we pass down the faith to a new generation. May God bless our families and parish in this noble endeavor.

Sincerely,

Dr. James R. Sheehan, D. Min.

Director of Pastoral Formation