

St. Joseph's Catholic Church
Religious Education Program/REP
2025-2026
Welcome Back!

PLEASE get Update of Info. 2025-2026 returned by Wednesday, August 20th! Thank you! That includes everyone... not just new students! This shows me who is coming to REP this year!!

**REP Registration envelopes will also be available at Mass beginning this weekend, Aug. 2nd/3rd!!
Take home, fill out and return at the next Mass or when convenient for you!
There will be a box labeled for returned forms!**

MANDATORY - REP Parent Meeting – Wed., Aug. 20th at 6:30pm

**There will be a parent meeting - 6:30pm - 7:00pm -- in the Church -- it is MANDATORY!
Please attend!**

***Students will be in class at the hall at that time as well... Meal & fellowship after meeting!
**Ice Breakers, Welcome to Class/"Get to know you!" games!
Hotdogs & Snow Cones will be served at 7pm!**

**CATECHETICAL SUNDAY, SEPT. 21ST – DONUTS & JUICE/COFFEE/MILK WILL BE
SERVED AFTER MASS! LET'S CELEBRATE OUR TEACHERS!**

****I NEED HELPERS FOR SERVING DONUTS!****

Class Information:

- **Classes will begin at 6:45pm on Wednesday evenings. If students have older siblings, they can wait with their parents until their older sibling's class is over.**
- **Please refrain from disturbing the classes that are in the main hall. We understand that you may want to speak with other parents, but please do it outside so classes can focus on their learning and not get distracted! Thank you for your help & support!**

***Classes end at...**

Pre-K, K & 1st Grade ends at 7:45pm -

**PARENTS MUST COME IN TO THE PARISH HALL GET THEIR CHILDREN AT 7:45PM!
PLEASE REFRAIN FROM COMING IN EARLY AND TALKING AS WE HAVE CLASSES ONGOING
IN THE MAIN HALL AND IT DISRUPTS THEM! WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT &
FLEXIBILITY!**

2nd Grade through Post Confirmation classes will end at 8:00pm

***** Father Ranjan will meet with the children in classes on occasion.*****
When class is dismissed, students are to be picked up in the hall... Thank you!

- We will have 10 groups this year * Subs/Helpers –
- Our Altar Server Coordinators are Krystal Sellars & Christina Brenek! We thank them for helping our servers feel more comfortable as they aid in training & support! They help schedule the servers!

• Christina Brenek/Meagan Cox/Nicolette Brenek	Group 1 - Pre-Kindergarten	Rm. 1
• Grace Simone/ ?? Helper	Group 2 - Kindergarten	Rm. 4
• Letha Novosad/Consuelo Solorzano	Group 3 - 1st Grade (1 st Year R&C)	Rm. 9
• Crystal Cowen/Cindy Cardenas	Group 4 - 2nd Grade (2 nd Year R&C)	Rm. 3
• Patty Glasgow/Kristen Parker	Group 5 – 3rd/4th Grade	Hall
• Sarah Hejl/Becky Rossler-Mahan	Group 6 – 5th Grade	Rm. 5
• Sara Fuchs/Melissa Souhrada	Group 7 - 6th/7th Grade	Rm. 2
• Mary Beth Gaspard	Group 8 - 8th Grade (SPED)	Other
• Rose Marie Schoppe/Barbara Brenek	Group 9 - Confirmation (1st year prep)	Rm. 6
• Michael/Ricky Brenek, Cheyenne Jahns & Courtney Prado	Group 10 - Post Confirmation/HS	Rm. 7/8

CCD Expectations:

- **Attendance: Excessive absences (3+) or excessive tardiness (5+) may result in students having to repeat the grade the next year. These cases will be discussed with Father Ranjan and the parents prior to decisions being made. If children are going to miss class, we ask the parents to contact the teacher for the lesson so they can remain current. You can text Shirley Hoelscher, 254-541-7950, and/or the teacher.**

*****If your child is in a Sacrament year, it is MOST important that they attend their classes as much as possible!! *****

****Parents will be notified after the 3rd absence... Teachers will be reaching out to parents if they see a pattern of absences and check on you and your child!**

****For Parents of Sacrament classes only -- (*1st Grade Prep & 2nd Grades First Reconciliation & Communion & Confirmation Prep Years 1 & 2 - 7th-8th Grades) -- We understand that there will be scheduled parent meetings and/or retreats that *BOTH parents are required to attend (*unless otherwise communicated with teachers very early on)... We will attend scheduled events. Thank you!**

***For all REP parents & students - Will you and your children be willing to participate & volunteer in helping during our yearly church Picnic and Spring Dinner? There will be assigned time slots to work during these events. Since we do not charge for REP, this is a great way to give back to St. Joseph's! Thank you!**

- Follow Illness Protocol & Procedures --

****It is pretty simple -- If your child feels unwell and/or has a temp. of 99.5 or higher, please keep your child at home. Please let your teacher know and/or let Mrs. Hoelscher know. We can email and/or send the missed lesson to you to go over with your child! We hope they feel better soon!**

- **Ethics In Ministry Lessons** – Kinder. through Post Confirmation lessons will be completed during Sept./Oct. 2025 - Lesson 4. More information is coming soon on this lesson!
- CYO (MS & HS) meetings will be held the first Wednesday of the month! Parents, please encourage your children to be a part of this great group! It is a service to our community and it will strengthen your child's walk with our Lord! We are hoping to make this group even more exciting for the upcoming year!!
- We are continuing to work on having ADORATION once a semester!! More news to come about that soon!
- Altar serving is a huge part of service to our church that we hope ALL students can be a part of once they complete the sacrament of First Communion (usually at the end of 2nd grade). If your child has completed the sacrament of First Communion, please discuss with your child this wonderful way to serve your church home! We need more servers and the more we have... the bigger rotation we will have so you only have to do it a few times a year! High school students AND Seniors are asked to stick with us until they graduate! We need YOU to mentor our little ones! **They look UP to YOU -- *Play on God's field, altar serve!*** -- *Training dates will be posted soon!!*
- High school students that attend REP on Wed's. get to help with the yearly VBS program and become leaders! Our little ones need to get to know our high school kids, & they look up to them! There will be some great activities planned for our high school students, they shouldn't miss out!!
- Baptismal certificates ARE REQUIRED for students enrolled in sacrament classes AND students transferring from another parish. Students attending classes here from another parish will have to bring a letter of consent from their pastor. Also, if you are transferring a student, Religious Education attendance records are required. Students must have attended the First Grade to be enrolled in First Communion Class and Seventh and Eighth Grades to be enrolled in Confirmation preparation classes. Unless other decisions have been determined. *Exceptions only in rare cases!
- If classes are canceled, parents will be contacted by Facebook message, email and/or phone. It is important for the REP office to have current phone #'s, email addresses and contact persons for emergency reasons. We will follow area school closings via radio/TV station notices for weather/other delays/cancellations...
- If we have any ongoing behavioral problems with a student, parents will be contacted. Parents must meet with the teacher and the coordinator to discuss the situation. If the problem persists, we will refer the student to the Priest, we will ask that the student not be allowed back to class until the teacher and coordinator are confident that the situation is resolved.

Class/Church Rules:

- Youth Sundays will be the third Sunday of each month, unless noted otherwise on the schedule. During Youth Sundays, students will help lead in praying the Rosary, will proclaim the scriptures at Mass / Lector, & help with being an Usher, Altar Servers, Presenters of the Gifts & will ask one question of Father Ranjan. The schedule is below of who is responsible for each month. The Wed. REP class before

Youth Sunday will be a time for those students to pick the part they will be responsible for and be given time to practice together as a class. The students that select the readings may have their teacher or parent stand up with them at Mass for comfort & reassurance. Copies of the readings will go home with readers to help them practice and get prepared ahead of time!

- All Youth should be at Youth Sunday early (*by 7:50am!) to fully participate in all parts of Youth Sunday Mass! Children will sit with their parents and will get up as needed to fulfill their responsibilities for Youth Sunday.

****Youth Sundays -- 3rd Sunday of the Month****

1. Oct. 19th - Post Confirmation
2. Nov. 16th - Confirmation Class (7th - 9th)
3. Dec. 21st - 4th Grade & Kindergarten
4. Jan. 18th - 3rd Grade & 1st Grade
5. Feb. 15th - First Communion (2nd)
6. Mar. 15th - 5th/6th Grade MS & Pre-K
7. April 19th - Confirmation Class (7th - 9th)
8. May 17th - Senior Recognition

- When in church, please show respect for God by sitting still and quiet, and saying the prayers of the Mass. When you show reverence to God in Church, that is what you are to do in Church, everyone else is respected!
- Please show respect to your teacher and classmates. Teachers put time and effort into preparing lessons, and each time one stops to discipline a student or class, it disrespects the time and effort that the teacher has provided for their students. Remember, this is NOT a paying job; we are a group of volunteers working towards helping your children grow in their faith & walk with the Lord!
- Please respect the property. Be quiet and still in church. Do not put your feet on the seats or back of the pew in front of you. Do not chew gum, drink or eat in church. When leaving church, no running, yelling, pushing or fighting. Enter the hall with respect for fellow students. Do not sit on tables or write on anything other than what is provided for you. There is to be no running in the hall nor is there to be any horseplay in the restrooms.

- ****Please do not wear hats or caps in the building during REP and/or Mass.****

• Parents - Please stay as quiet as you can in the hall during class time! We have wonderful student participation and our classrooms are overflowing and so we do have classes in the main part of the hall... Talking on your cell phone and/or talking with a fellow parent/parents may be distracting to our classes! Thank you for respecting our class time and remaining outside during class time or remaining quiet in the hall! We appreciate YOU! If you do come in early, remember... you CAN always go to your child's classroom to see what they are up to & get involved!

- ***Please let your children know that it may not be safe running around the church grounds after dusk/dark... We would NOT want them to get hurt (with vehicles coming & going) or possibly run into a snake. We will have the covered hard top lights on for the kids to run around on. Please speak with your kids about being safe outside!***
- Please do not bring anything to REP that is not conducive to a religious learning environment. ***All Cell phones and iPods must be turned off or turned in to the REP teacher when entering class and are not to be turned back on until classes dismiss.***
- ***Do not bring candy, toys, sodas or gum to class.*** REP Teachers will let you know about their snack preferences and if a snack will be made available. These may be provided for everyone when a teacher plans a party. Please make sure classrooms are clean when you leave. The Knights of Columbus may provide supper for the classes, volunteers and parents a few times during the year.

*****Parents, please feel free to volunteer in your child's classrooms, we would love to have you!***

*****Please look at the dates of events for the upcoming year on the next page!!***

We're looking forward to a great year! If you have any questions or comments, feel free to call or email:

Blessings to ALL!!!

Shirley Hoelscher - DRE

254-541-7950

svwallace@hotmail.com

St. Joseph's Catholic Church

St. Joseph's CCD/REP Dates 2025 - 2026

- **Mandatory CCD Parent Meeting & 1st Class - Wed., Aug. 20th**
Meeting & Class 6:30pm – 7:00pm Meal, Snow-cones & fellowship 7:00pm -8:00pm
- **CATECHETICAL SUNDAY– Sunday, Sept. 21st we will honor our 2025-2026 CCD teachers - (Donuts & Coffee/Juice served afterwards outside church - need helpers to serve refreshments!)**
- **Church Picnic – Sept. 28th – Please look at the Work-List & do your part!**
- **Youth Sunday & First Reconciliation/First Communion Recognition/Blessing - Sunday, Oct. 19th (**All First reconciliation and First Communion students must attend this Sunday!) Post Confirmation will lead Youth Sunday Mass!**
- **Rosary of Lights – Wed., Oct. 15th – Need parents to help! Thanks!**
- **5th Annual Trunk or Treat – Wed., Oct. 29th from 6:30pm – 8:00pm - Nachos, Hotdogs, Desserts served & Games -- All church families invited as well as the community to decorate a table or trunk, bring a game & give candy out to the kids! This event counts for REP attendance!**
- **All Saints Day Mass - Saturday, Nov. 1st**
- **CYO Cemetery Cleanup – Sat. Nov. 1st**
- **Veterans Day Ceremony (after Mass) – Sunday, Nov. 2nd - Following at the cemetery... families help place flags & flowers on gravesites.**
- **Youth Sunday & Confirmation Student Recognition/Blessing - Sunday, Nov. 16th *(All Confirmation students must attend this Sunday!) Confirmation students will lead Youth Sunday!**
- **No CCD – Wed., Nov. 26th due to the Thanksgiving holiday**
- **Wed., Dec. 3rd - St. Nicholas Day Surprise**
- **First Reconciliation & Retreat - Saturday, Dec. 13th, 2024**
- **Christmas Caroling - Sunday, Dec. 21st**

- Christmas Pageant – Wed., Dec. 24th ***Practices will be on Dec. 7th, 14th & 21st
- No CCD classes - Dec. 24th & Dec. 31st due to Christmas Holidays & Break
- CCD classes resume from holidays - Wed., Jan. 7th - Epiphany Party (Given by the Altar Society)
- We will have REP class during Bell County Youth Fair week. (Feb. 9th - 13th)
- Feb. 11th - Valentine's Day celebration At CCD
- Lenten Cocoon Making Wed., Feb. 4th
- Parish Appreciation event - Sun. Feb. 15th
- Ash Wednesday Mass - Wed., Feb. 18th
- Shadow Stations – TBD -- The whole parish is invited!
- No CCD Wed., March 18th– Spring Break
- Confirmation - Not this year (1st year prep)
- Butterfly Making Event in class – Wed., March 25th & April 1st
- Spring Dinner/Palm Sunday – March 29th - Please see Work-List and help out!
- Easter Sunday – Sunday, April 5th, 2026
- First Communion Retreat – Possibly on a Wednesday, TBD (April 18th??)
- First Communion - Sunday, April 26th (Breakfast in Parish Hall - Donuts, fruit, coffee & juice)
- May Crowning – Sunday, May 3rd (Children proceed in with Father Ranjan and bring flowers)
- Mother's Day – Sunday, May 10th, 2026
- Last Day of CCD – Wed., May 13th (Pizza Party given by Altar Society)
- Senior Recognition – Sunday, May 17th (Breakfast served - Senior choice menu in parish hall)
- Vacation Bible School – Saturday, June 13th