

2019-2020 Our Lady of the Lakes Parish - St. Peter Worship Site

Religious Education General Information

July, 2019

Dear parents and guardians,

Our Lady of the Lakes Parish has two worship sites St. Bede in Ingleside and St. Peter in Antioch. Pastor, Fr. George Koeune and Associate Pastor, Fr. Michael Grzesik serve both worship sites.

The Religious Education (RE) Programs are under the direction of Deacon Mark Buckley, Director of Religious Education at St. Bede and Kari Leaf, Director of Religious Education at St. Peter. Even though we function as one religious education program, there are some slight differences and requirements at each site.

Enrollment Tuition & Fees:

We are happy to announce that we ***will not increase*** our Religious Education Tuition and Fees for 2019-2020. See attached pages for specific fees.

Class Schedules:

St. Bede RE classes are located at 36399 No Wilson Road in Ingleside. (Rt. 59 & Wilson Rd.)

Classes are offered on Sundays mornings.

- Pre-K* through 8th grade meets from 9:30am-10:50am. Classes begin on September 15, 2019.
- *We will offer Pre-K & K if we have enough students at St. Bede.

St. Peter RE classes are located at 900 Saint Peter St. in Antioch. In former school building, (Rt. 173 & Rt. 59)

Classes are offered on Wednesdays evenings.

- 1st-6th grades meet from 5:30-6:50pm. Classes begin on September 18, 2019.
- 7th-8th grades meet from 7:15-8:45pm. Classes begin on September 18, 2019.

Mass Schedules:

We strongly encourage families to attend weekly Mass as often as possible and be contributing members of the parish.

The Mass times for *Our Lady of the Lakes* are:

St. Bede Church

Saturday Vigil Mass-5:30pm

Sunday Masses- 8:00am, 11:00am, and 2:00pm

Confessions are Saturdays from 11:30am-12:30pm

St. Peter Church

Saturday Vigil Mass-4:00pm

Sunday Masses-6:30am, 9:30am, and 12:30pm

Confessions are Saturdays from 8:15am-9:00am

Sacrament Preparation:

We hope all parents strive to have their children attend RE every year as a foundation for their Faith Formation. As a requirement of the Archdiocese of Chicago, all children receiving First Communion or Confirmation must have two consecutive years of religious education preparedness before receiving a Sacrament. Typically students prepare for First Communion (and First Reconciliation) in the 1st and 2nd grades, and make both sacraments in their 2nd grade year. Some students make their First Communion when they are older for various reasons. If this is true for your child, please indicate this on the registration form.

Students prepare for Confirmation typically during 7th and 8th grade. At St. Peter, after those classes are completed, 8th grade students continue on with specific Confirmation classes throughout the summer of that year. Students then receive the sacrament of Confirmation in the fall of their 9th grade year of high school. Specific requirements for Confirmation will be covered at a parent/student meeting during the students 8th grade year.

Reminders: If your child has not been baptized and are over 6 years of age they need to receive formal religious education classes before baptism. Or, if your child was baptized, but not in a Catholic church, they need to have a Profession of Faith, which is a declaration that they want to join the Catholic Church.

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Class Calendar:

The Class Calendar is published as soon as the dates are set and will be distributed to parents. The dates for classes are coordinated with the Parish Calendar and Holidays.

Attendance:

The Archdiocese of Chicago requires a set amount of hours of religious education classes each year. We have scheduled classes to meet those requirements, so we ask that families do their best to make sure their child attends class as often as possible and **miss no more than 3 classes a year**. We know that other commitments happen so we ask for students in 1st through 6th grade to take their book home and complete any missed lessons. 7th & 8th grade students, who miss more than three classes, will receive special assignments to complete at home. (If a student misses an excessive amount of classes, they may need to repeat the same grade the following year.)

Home School – High School – Youth Group:

- *Home School* is available, except for students in 2nd and 8th grade. Deacon Mark will meet with home school parents from St. Bede and St. Peter in early October and go over books and procedures. He will then meet at the end of the school year with parent and student to go over their work.
- *High school*-If there are high school students who need First Communion and/or Confirmation, classes will be conducted at St. Bede. Please contact Deacon Mark to discuss this further.
- *High school youth group* for grades 9-12 is offered at St. Peter, led by Kari Leaf, to any student who wants to join, and is strongly encouraged for all high school students. Typically the youth group meets 1-2 times per month. Students spend time learning more about their Catholic faith, going on retreats, working on community service projects, partaking in fundraisers, eating good food, and many students attend our annual summer mission trip to Catholic Heart Workcamp. No formal registration is needed for participating in youth group, but please let us know if your family would like to be added to the youth group email or text list.

Community Service Hours for 8th Grade Students:

As part of the requirements for Confirmation, 8th grade students complete 20 Community Service Hours. They can obtain those hours by volunteering at Parish activities listed in the bulletin, activities at their school, activities at other non-profit organizations, helping someone NOT in their household; such as; “free” babysitting, shoveling Grandparents driveway, mow the grass for an elderly neighbor. Each student needs to keep track of their hours. Further information will be given to 8th grade students in the fall.

How Do I Enroll My Student(s)?

Complete the 2019-2020 Enrollment Forms attached. Complete each section and make sure you mark what site your children will attend, either at St. Bede or St. Peter. Take the time to read everything and complete the form in full. Turn in the form, along with payment and any other information required. The attached registration forms can be emailed, mailed or dropped off at St. Bede School for St. Bede and the Rectory Office at St. Peter.

Scholarship Fund & Financial Assistance:

- The RE Program relies on the generosity of the Parish members and if any member would like to contribute to a scholarship fund where that money could be used to fund students who are otherwise unable to pay. Any amount would be appreciated and you may include the amount with tuition or any time of the year.
- If Families need Financial Assistance just ask the RE Department for a form to complete.
- Families who are regular volunteers in the RE program can receive tuition discounts, please see attached pages for more information.

Communication:

We will communicate with parents *via e-mail*, unless you request otherwise. Make sure we always have your up-to-date e-mail address, and make sure your computer allows the church websites. **ALSO, CHECK YOUR EMAIL OFTEN.**

Contact Information:

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| Deacon Mark A. Buckley, Director Religious Education at St. Bede | mbuckley@ourladylakesparish.org | 847-587-2301 |
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