



SACRED HEART PARISH



OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS PARISH

all are welcome

Grades 6 & 7 Religious Education 2025-2026 Registration & Instructions

Classes begin September 22 (OL) & September 30 (SH) – Registration deadline is September 8!

Summer 2025

Dear Grade 6 and 7 Families,

Happy Summer!

We hope you are all settling into summer and enjoying time together. We pray that this summer is one of rest, relaxation, fun, and health. It seems hard to believe, but it is already time to register for next year's Religious Education program!

In-person classes for Grades 6 & 7: At Sacred Heart, classes will be held Tuesday nights in the Lower Church classrooms. At Our Lady's, classes will be held on Monday nights in the Parish Center on the church property. All Grade 6 & 7 classes, at both parishes, will be 7:00pm-8:00pm.

Recognizing how busy schedules can be, we are glad to offer families from both parishes the opportunity to "cross-register" at the other parish. If you are interested in this option, please simply select the appropriate class time when you register.

Welcome and Info Session: All parents, especially those enrolling their 6th grade children, are strongly encouraged to attend a brief welcome and info session on the first night of class. For Sacred Heart, that is Tuesday, September 30, at 7pm in the Lower Chapel and Classrooms. For Our Lady's, that is Monday, September 22, at 7pm in the Lower Church Hall (students will be dismissed to the classrooms in the Parish Office following the info session). The entire year's calendar will be sent out later in the summer.

Homeschool option: We know that many of you have found the at-home program to be convenient and helpful for your family over the last few years. We are glad to continue to offer this option for those who want it. This option will consist of the Pflaum Gospel Weekly curriculum, a family volunteer service component, and Zoom check-ins with staff. (Zoom check-ins will be held four to five times during the year. Each student must attend at least two check-ins during the year.)

Registration instructions and deadlines: Please register online at <https://forms.office.com/r/M6ZBLz1ew5> or by following the link at <https://sholnewton.org/religious-education>. If you need a paper form mailed to you, please give us a call, and we'll gladly send one.

In order to begin class on the first day, registrations must be received **by Monday, September 8**. This is also the deadline for same-grade friend requests, which we always do our best to honor but can't guarantee even when received by September 8.

New families and new students: Welcome! We're so glad you're here and are honored to partner with you! New families are asked to register in the parish, online at boston.parishsoftfamilysuite.com. If your child was not baptized at Sacred Heart or Our Lady's, please send a photocopy/scan of their baptismal certificate when they first enroll.

For those families who are returning, if you know someone who is new to our parish, our programs, or your neighborhood, please encourage them to join us and to register as soon as possible. All are welcome!

Mass attendance: We have really come to understand that children who go to church on a regular basis have a much-needed foundation for the topics of faith that are explored in class. We expect that any child in the RE program attends Mass, for the benefit of themselves, their families, and the whole community.

Payment: We would be grateful to receive tuition payment at the time of registration. **This year, tuition is \$100 per child with a \$200 family cap for two or more children.**

--If you are registering for Tuesday classes held at Sacred Heart, please send a check made out to Sacred Heart to the office (1321 Centre St, Newton Centre, MA 02459).

--If you are registering for Monday classes held at Our Lady's, tuition can be paid securely online at <https://sholnewton.org/tuition-payment> or by sending a check made out to Our Lady's to the office (573 Washington St, Newton, MA 02458).

Because our programs run at a deficit every year, please consider assisting other families in need with an additional donation, if you are able. Any amount is welcome.

Children are always welcome without payment if there is a serious need. Please speak to a member of the Religious Education staff if this is the case. Multiple smaller payments throughout the year are welcome. **No one is ever refused because they cannot pay.** Parents who volunteer EVERY WEEK in the classroom or as a hall monitor do not pay tuition. There is a \$25 per family late fee (for returning families) for registrations received after September 9 unless discussed with a staff member prior.

Volunteers: Finally, please help us to begin the year with all our volunteer needs met by September 9. It is so much easier for everyone if volunteers don't wait until the last minute. We prefer to have two catechists (teachers) in each class. This makes it easier for everyone, provides a sub if the lead catechist is sick or out of town, and provides an aide at the same time. Catechists (teachers), assistants, and hall monitors are needed. Please let us know if you will help!

So many people tell us year after year how much they learn by teaching. Please pray on the calling to spread God's love and Good News by teaching our children. There is a place for volunteers to note their availability on the registration form. There will be catechist training sessions and check-ins available before classes begin and during the school year, where we will discuss curriculum as well as classroom management strategies. If you want to talk about volunteering prior to signing up, please reach out to any of us! We are happy to talk!

We hope you have a great summer, and we look forward to seeing you for classes, if not before. **The Collaborative Picnic is planned for Sunday, September 21, at Our Lady's - please join us for this free and fun event!** And please call or email during the summer with ANY questions.

Wishing you peace, joy, and blessings,

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