



## Summer Program Handbook

This intensive 10-day program encourages students to find and build a strong relationship with Christ and the Church. Students complete a year's worth of Religious Education instruction in two weeks. Once a student has completed the **KEY REQUIREMENTS** they are eligible to move on to the next grade level. Available for students in grades 3-6.

Attendance is mandatory for all 10 days; if you have vacation or other activities that will interfere, please choose the Fall or Home Study Program.

### KEY REQUIREMENTS

- Mandatory attendance for all **10** sessions.
- Attend **15** Masses between September and May. A Mass Sense form must be turned in for each Mass attended. Forms available in the Narthex and should be returned to the mailbox at the parish center.
- Attendance at **3** of the planned program events during the year - an email with dates to be sent out in the fall.
- Completion of the Empowering God's Children program. The Archdiocese of Newark requires all Faith Formation students to participate. This program is designed to teach children about personal safety and boundaries within a faith-based context.
- 6th Grade only: Successfully passing the 6th Assessment test given in March

### Typical Activities

Classroom instruction covering grade-level curriculum  
Mass, Eucharistic Adoration and Reconciliation  
Creative arts, music, and crafts.  
Prayer, devotionals, and fellowship.  
Recreation and outdoor activities.

Additionally, students and families are encouraged to attend parish wide events like a prayer services on Ash Wednesday, Stations of the Cross devotion during Lent and special events like the Christmas Concert during advent. Religious Education takes place primarily through a family's practice of the faith -- weekly Mass, regular reception of sacraments, praying together, involvement in parish life, and a daily life of devotion and love. We are here to walk with you and support your efforts to raise your children Catholic.

### Staff

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"Life with Christ is  
a wonderful  
adventure."

Saint John Paul II

## POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

### Registration

Completed on-line only. Opens in January.

### Eligibility

To be eligible for the Summer program:

- The family must be registered parishioners.
- The student must have been baptized and received First Holy Communion.
- The student must have completed continuous Religious Education instruction without any gaps.

### Pick-Up and Drop-Off

The Summer RE program takes place in Saint Elizabeth's School. Parents should drop off their child in by 8:45 and follow the drop off instructions. Children are only dismissed directly to parents at the door. Please remember to drive slowly!

### Behavior

To ensure the best possible experience for all of our families, we ask parents for their close cooperation to avoid or minimize the following types of situations. We greatly appreciate your partnership!

Although some disruptive behavior is normal and can be handled with minimal redirection. To manage misbehavior fairly and effectively, these steps will be followed:

1. Warning: The child will be warned at the time of the occurrence. Usually, this will suffice.
2. Phone call: If the disruptive behavior persists after the warning(s), a staff member will then call a parent to come to the session for the remainder of the time and a conference after dismissal.
3. Chaperone: If the misbehavior is persistent and cannot be resolved, a parent will be required to attend all remaining sessions with their child.

Mass: Please do not leave your child unattended or unsupervised at Mass! The parish does not have staff on hand to supervise unattended children. As the primary Catechists, parents should attend Mass with their children.

### Acceptable Use of Technology

Saint Elizabeth's holds specific expectations for students at each grade level regarding their use of technology. The following rules of Conduct apply:

Students:

- May not ever instant message or text message during Religious Education.
- May not post private or personal information about or photographs of another student, Catechist, or staff member on the Internet, including without limitation, all social media networking sites (i.e. Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, YouTube, etc.) or via cell phone.
- May not post any picture or image of or about Saint Elizabeth Religious Education on the Internet or via cell phone.

"The Eucharist is the sacrament of love: it signifies love, it produces love. The Eucharist is the consummation of the whole spiritual life."

Saint Thomas Aquinas



- Cell phones - Student cell phone use is prohibited. Cell phones, iPods, cameras, or other telecommunication devices may not be used during Religious Education classes. Cell phones and other devices must be turned off while classes are in session, unless directed otherwise by teacher or administration.

Student use of a cell phone (and other devices) on school premises is prohibited unless expressly permitted by the administration. If a student is found using a cell phone, iPod, camera, or other telecommunication device during Religious Education, the device will be confiscated and returned to the student's parent at pickup. If a student is found taking pictures or recording videos of students and/or teachers, with the intent of posting them on social media, the device may be confiscated and turned over to the Wyckoff Police Department for investigation if deemed necessary.

For Parents/Guardians:

Parents and/or guardians of students at Saint Elizabeth Religious Education are expected to support their child's adherence to the above-stated guidelines.

In addition, parents are expected to respect the privacy of the Saint Elizabeth community and to help foster a safe and loving environment for all students. Therefore, parents may not share photos or videos of any student, other than their own child, on any social media networking site (i.e. Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, YouTube, etc.) if the photos/videos are taken at any Saint Elizabeth's event including but not limited to in-person presentations, class parties, field trips, sporting events, Masses, and prayer services.

Parents have sole control over pictures of their own children and may post those pictures if no other students appear in the picture. Because photos that are posted on any social media become public property and may be used by anyone for any purpose, Saint Elizabeth strongly discourages parents from posting any pictures of their children on social media. In rare instances, special permission may be granted to share or publish a photo on express authorization of the Saint Elizabeth Church Administration and permission from all parties involved.

**"Be kind and merciful. Let no one ever come to you without coming away better and happier."**

**Saint Mother Teresa**