

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH - NEWPORT

2023-2024 CCD Religious Education Registration Form

CCD classes will begin Sunday, October 1st.

Class will be held each Sunday from 9:00am to 10:15am.

Child's Name: _____ Child's preferred name: _____
(First Middle Last)

Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____ City, State of Birth: _____

Home Address: _____

School Child Attends: _____ Grade: _____ (as of Sept. 2023)

Is family registered here at St. Mary's-Newport Church? Yes / No

Father's Name: _____ Religion: _____

Mother's Maiden Name: _____ Religion: _____

Has Child been baptized? Yes / No Date: _____

Church of Baptism: _____

(Name and Address)

Have we received a copy of child's Baptismal Certificate? Yes / No**

****If no, please bring a copy of the Baptismal Certificate on the first day of class****

Has Child had First Holy Communion? Yes / No Date _____

Church: _____

(Name and Address)

Is Child in a special education program? Yes / No

Does Child have any special needs, or allergies? _____

Do you have any other concerns? _____

Would Child's parent/guardian be available to volunteer in the Religious Education program this year? Yes / No

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

All communications concerning this child should be addressed to:

Name: _____ Relationship to child: _____

Address: _____

Home phone: _____ Work phone: _____

Cell phone: _____ Email address: _____

Amount paid: _____ (\$40 per Child) Cash / Check # _____ Date paid: _____

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Parent-Student Contract

Student's Name: _____ **Grade:** _____
(Please Print)

CCD (Confraternity of Christian Doctrine) is the Catholic Church's religious education program. CCD not only prepares children to receive the sacraments of Reconciliation, First Communion, and Confirmation, its primary purpose is to educate and mentor children in the Faith, helping them grow as believing, practicing Catholics, disciples of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is important to emphasize that CCD is not extraneous to the life of the parish: indeed, the expectation is that all children enrolled in the program are practicing members of the Church.

A *requirement* for remaining in the CCD program is that all children attend Sunday Mass. The obligation to attend Mass is a precept of Divine Law, and the principal way we obey the commandment to worship God alone (for if we are absent from Sunday worship, someone should rightly ask of us, 'what are they worshipping instead?'). By going to Sunday Mass we publicly attest that we want to put God first in our lives and love him with all our heart, all our soul, and all our strength.

Most importantly, the Mass is the greatest gift and privilege we possess! God loves us so much that he wants to give us his very self in the Body and Blood of his Son; in every Mass we are invited to share in the great work of redemption that is the Sacrificial Offering of Christ. There is no greater prayer we can make, and there is no greater moment we can find to encounter, receive, and rejoice in the love of our God. What treasure could we find that would be greater than this? As long as we are physically able, what reason could we have to not come and celebrate this greatest of gifts?

The only valid reason for missing Mass is sickness or the need to care for another who is sick or physical impossibility in getting to Mass. If a family is gone from home for travel, the obligation to attend Mass still applies: one should find a place to attend Mass on Sunday wherever one might travel.

Three *excused* absences are permitted for sickness or family leave. The same attendance policy holds for CCD classes themselves: for if one is not able to attend Mass, one should not be at CCD class. (Sports or other activities are not excused absences.) More than six absences (three excused + three unexcused absences) will entail the possibility that the child will not be permitted to receive First Communion or Confirmation at the end of the year.

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A sign-up sheet will be posted in the back of the church to record church attendance. (If a family is registered at another parish, St. Mary's will contact that pastor to confirm the child's attendance at Mass.)

With respect to classroom behavior, it is expected that students will treat staff, teachers, and their fellow students with respect, that they will come prepared for class, and that they will be attentive and participate in the lessons and activities given.

CCD fees (\$40 for the year) will help cover books used for the instruction in class. Reading assignments will be given for homework each week, as well as certain prayers and lists to memorize (for which there will be a quiz the following week). Parents are asked to impress upon their children the importance of bringing their books to class and taking them home each week.

Beginning this year, Confirmation prep will be done with Sacred Heart Parish in La Plata: seventh graders will be enrolled and attend Confirmation class on Tuesdays evenings from 6:00pm-8:30pm with the 7th graders from Sacred Heart parish at the old convent there (next to ANS), and will receive Confirmation at a Mass celebrated together with them at Sacred Heart church. (Confirmation class will begin later in October, and usually meet every other week.) Anna Albrittain, the head of Youth Ministry at Sacred Heart, will be leading the program.

If you have any questions regarding these expectations, please contact Fr Matt, Terry Wade or JoAnn Lennon.

Parent's/Guardian's Signature

Date
