

Catholic Community of Owosso St. Paul Parish
K-8 Religious Education 2023-2024
Goals

The ‘primary goal of religious education is not simply to teach young people *about* God but to guide them to live in as perfect a union as possible *with* God in Jesus Christ our Lord’ (*The Art of Teaching Christian Doctrine: Good News and Its Proclamation*, Johannes Hofinger, S.J. & Francis J. Buckley, S.J.). In religious education the goal is to foster a relationship with God which ultimately leads to discipleship and union with Christ.

To accomplish this St Paul Owosso religious education catechists and staff will:

1. Live our faith; we will practice what we preach and thus lead by example.
2. Adhere to the teachings of the Catechism of the Catholic Church.
3. Teach and foster Catholic faith and doctrine, through Sacraments, prayer, devotion, and liturgy so that the child may be fully alive and live as a lifelong disciple of Christ.
4. Walk with children and parents in their spiritual growth and conversion.
5. Evangelize and encourage others to live their faith dedicated to a life of love and service to God and neighbor knowing that God is with them, God loves them, and God has a plan for their life.
6. Promote Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition as the source of God’s revelation to man and the rule of the Catholic faith.
7. Prepare students to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist for the first time and encourage them to continue to receive these Sacraments of grace frequently.
8. Prepare students to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation and thus filled with the Holy Spirit to go out and announce the “Good News” of Christ as He has commanded us to courageously do.

“For I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.” – Jeremiah 29:11

St Paul religious ed is here to walk with you in the religious education of your children. They are the heart of all we do. We seek to pass on a strong Catholic faith which will help them weather the many storms that come in life. We seek to guide them to grow in love and union with Jesus Christ so to be with Him in Heaven forever. This requires the prayers of so many of us and the grace that comes from worthy reception of the Sacraments.

We pray for your families and especially your children. We ask God to grant them the grace to make good choices. We pray that they will listen for His voice, that they will trust Him, and follow the plan He has laid for their life. We pray that God will grant them wisdom, fortitude, joy, and peace. We ask you to pray daily for and with your children, for St Paul Parish, religious education, school, staff, catechists, teachers, and volunteers that by the grace of God they may be able to affect the hearts and minds of His children to desire to know Him so as to love and serve Him and their neighbor as themselves.

