

Religious Education Mission

It is the goal of the St. Giles Parish Religious Education programs to support the efforts of parents in handing on the gift of our Catholic faith to their children.

Our programs are designed to offer children and their parents opportunities to deepen not only their knowledge of our Catholic faith, but also to deepen their personal relationship with our God through prayer, communal worship, and service to others.



Sacrament Preparation

Students who enroll in our traditional Religious Education program or in our Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program also receive formation for the reception of the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation at the appropriate age and readiness.

The formation for all sacraments includes students and their parents in a setting which fosters prayer, faith formation, and service throughout their preparation process.



Saint Giles Parish Religious Education

HANDING ON THE FAITH



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Preschool Religious Education



PREP is designed to give preschool children (ages 3 to 5 years) an introduction to basic Catholic Christian principles. Classes meet on Sunday morning from 9:30 to 10:30 during the regular school year, beginning in September and continuing through April.

Class sessions include a gathering time for children to get to know each other, before the lesson of the week is presented. The lesson is taught with age appropriate activities, crafts, and catechist led discussions.

Parental involvement is key to the success of this program. See the PREP volunteer form for more details.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is an approach to the religious formation of children 3 to 12 years of age, inspired by the Montessori principles of education. The catechists meet with the children in a prepared environment called the “atrium”.

The catechist presents materials with close links to biblical and liturgical sources, and the child is free to choose an activity that will allow him or her to carry on a conversation with God.

The atrium is divided into three levels of formation. Level I meets on Sunday mornings from 9:30 to 10:30. This level is for children 3 to 5 years of age.

Level II meets on Wednesdays from 4:00 to 5:15pm and is geared to children who are 6 to 9 years of age.

Level III meets on Wednesday from 6:15 to 7:30pm for children 10 to 12 years of age.

Completion of Level II formation is required for Level

III.



Traditional Religious Education



The traditional classroom environment Religious Education program is for students in Grades 1-8 and in the Frawley Building. In this program students in grades 1-5 are introduced to the traditions and rituals of our Catholic faith through the sharing of the Scriptures, group prayer, crafts, songs, and other creative activities.

Students in grades 6-8 delve deeper into six specific topic areas of our faith in order to discover what it means to live as a “Catholic” in today’s world.

Grades 1-5 have the option of meeting on Sunday mornings from 9:15 to 10:45am or Wednesday afternoons from 4:00 to 5:15pm.

Grades 6-8 meet on Wednesday from 7:15 to 8:30pm.