

# Tri-Parish Partnership Parish School of Religion (PSR)

## PSR Family Handbook

### Introduction

Welcome to the Tri-Parish Partnership School of Religion (PSR)! We look forward to a year of learning and celebrating God's great love for us. It is our hope that we can work together with your family in helping to prepare our youth for an active and faithful Catholic life. Thank you for allowing us to take part in your child's faith formation!

### Purpose of this Handbook

This handbook is intended to be a reference for information, requirements, policies, and procedures for our PSR program. The handbook is a guideline which will govern the administration of PSR. This is to be considered a working document as well, and new information or changes may occur. Any new changes or information will be conveyed to PSR families through PSR newsletters, notes home, church bulletin, or the church website. It is our belief that parents and guardians of PSR students are responsible for reading and knowing the information in this handbook.

### Our Mission

The PSR program of the Tri-Parish Partnership, recognizes the obligation of Catholic parents to educate their children in the Catholic Faith. The PSR program's purpose is to aid and support to Baptized children who attend public schools and to their parents.

During the Rite of Baptism, parents accept the responsibility of training their children in the practice of the faith. It is within the family that children are introduced to prayer, Catholic life, and devotion. Learning prayers and doctrines should take place at home with the help of family members and reinforced through PSR classes. Families attending weekly Masses can maximize their children's growth in faith development. Also, parents can set good examples for their children to follow by showing love, forgiveness, trust, respect, devotion, and service to others and the community.

The PSR program will build awareness and participation in the church community. We will encourage PSR students and families to serve others and live out the Gospel message. PSR students will have opportunities for active participation at sessions with key elements of the Catholic faith taught. The Liturgical focus will be formation on prayers, rosary, saints, the Church Liturgical year, and basic living out the Catholic faith.

## Home-Based & On-Site Liturgical Activities

### PSR - Home-Based

PSR sessions will be **HOME BASED**-a workbook with digital access will be provided- with required ONLINE assessments. The program utilized will be ALIVE IN CHRIST, by Our Sunday Visitor. There will be **ONSITE Sessions on Wednesday evening from 6:25 PM to 7:30 PM**, October to April, unless noted on the PSR Schedule. These sessions will be 2 grades at a time [*with social distancing in place and mask required*]. The PSR Schedule will designate the weeks for each grade level. [included on page 4]

The Pastoral Associate will be the supervisor of the Home-Based PSR. The CRE at Holy Cross will be responsible for the On-Site PSR Liturgical Activities.

### Responsibilities

It is the student's responsibility (*along with the parent*) to work on the lessons in the workbook, utilize the online testing, and quizzes, and complete the Assessment Test each week until completion. There is online accountability for the assessment testing, with correspondence weekly- that contains PSR updates, testing link, and a PSR newsletter submitted through FLOCKNOTE.

## PSR Policy & Procedures

### Arrival- Covid-19 Policy & Procedure

*The following information and procedures are for the children's safety while attending PSR classes.* **Students will have their temperatures checked upon arrival. If they have a fever, or other symptoms, please do not come to the PSR sessions. In keeping with the Safety protocol- hand sanitizer will be provided, and a mask is to be worn.** The student will need to be signed in by the parent.

### Dismissal

For safety reasons, students must have a parent, other designated adult, present to be dismissed.

**\*\*\*There will be a Parent gathering each Wednesday evening, while your child attends PSR.**

### Snow Days

In cases of snow and icy weather or forecasts of snow and ice, we will follow the decision of **School District # 1**. If the public school calls off on a Wednesday due to inclement weather, then there will be no PSR sessions that evening. If it starts icing or heavy snowfall during the school day, then a decision will be made by 3 PM and a **FLOCKNOTE** message will be sent informing families if the session is cancelled.

### Cell Phones

No cell phones allowed out during PSR, Mass or at other events. They must be turned OFF and kept in jacket, backpack, or purse.

### Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist and Policy

Catholic children who are baptized and will be in the second grade typically receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist.

1) A copy of the child's Baptismal certificate needs to be on file at the church office. 2) Before a student may receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist, he/she must have regularly attended the previous year of a Catholic Religious Education Program. 3) Students receiving the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist should know the following prayers: Act of Contrition, Hail Mary, Our Father, and The Sign of the Cross. 4) Tri-Parish Partnership PSR teachers, pastoral associate and priest will conduct parent informational meeting about these sacraments. **Parent attendance is required at these meetings.**

### Sacrament of Confirmation and Policy

Typically, students in the 8th grade year prepare to receive this sacrament. In order to best adhere to the statement below, policies have been outlined that will best prepare the candidates.

Preparation for Confirmation should aim at leading the Christian toward a more intimate union with Christ and a livelier familiarity with the Holy Spirit—his actions, his gifts, and his biddings—in order to be more capable of assuming the apostolic responsibilities of Christian life. To this end catechesis for Confirmation should strive to awaken a sense of belonging to the Church of Jesus Christ, the universal Church as well as the parish community. The latter bears special responsibility for the preparation of confirmands. #127 Catechism of the Catholic Church

1) In order to be confirmed, students have already been baptized and received the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist. 2) All Sacramental certificates need to be on file at the church office. Students who did not receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist at the Tri-Parish, need to bring copies of these certificates and a copy of the child's Baptismal certificate to the church office. 3) Before a student may receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, he/she must have been regularly attending a Catholic Religious Education Program 4) Confirmation Candidates are required to attend many special events, retreats, adorations, and accumulate service hours. 5) PSR Teachers, Pastoral Associate and/or Priest will conduct parent informational meeting about the Sacrament of Confirmation. **Parent attendance is required at these meetings.**

### Attendance/Participation Policy

Our mission statement reflects the goals of faith formation, growth, participation, service, and awareness. We are also here to support parents and students in their journey towards Christ.

## Sacramental Certificates

New students will need to bring a copy of their Baptismal certificate and/or certificates of Reconciliation and Eucharist to the church office of their registered parish. If the student received any of these Sacraments at one of the Parishes locally, then the certificates are not needed.

## Schedule and Theme

**Sessions begin onsite Wednesday evenings: Oct 7 - April 28**

Grade Levels:

1 & 2 = 1<sup>st</sup> week of the month

3 & 4 = 2<sup>nd</sup> week of the month

5 & 8 = 3<sup>rd</sup> week of the month

6 & 7 = 4<sup>th</sup> week of the month

*\*\*\*Parents are encouraged to stay during this time to participate in faith sharing and fellowship.*

*~PSR onsite participation is encouraged to maintain and support the Parish to Home connection.*

*\*Monthly Themes\**

Oct: Mary-The Holy Rosary

Nov: Saints

Dec: Advent

Jan: Mary Mother of God

Feb: Lent/40 days

Mar: Lent

Apr: Easter/Prayers

*+Those who will be receiving Sacraments- supplemental instructions will be offered during the Wednesday night sessions with -At Home- supplements being provided. +*

## **CONTACT PAGE**

### **On-Site PSR Coordinator**

Ashley Hinterscher (HC)

### **Pastoral Associate**

Caroline Trimble [ctrimblepa@gmail.com](mailto:ctrimblepa@gmail.com) 618-263-7106

### **Priest**

Fr. Mark Stec [mstec88@msn.com](mailto:mstec88@msn.com) 618-841-7324

Fr. Brett Judkins [fatherbrettjudkins@gmail.com](mailto:fatherbrettjudkins@gmail.com) 618-514-3820

### **Facebook**

@StJosephHolyCrossStJoseph

### **Flocknote**

Sign Up by texting stjoeholycross to 84576 to get connected

### **Tri Parish Website**

<https://www.holycrosswendelin.com/tri-parish>

*Revised August 2020*