

# Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church Religious Education Parent Handbook



Religious Education Director: Patty Taylor [pattytaylor@ollmlb.org]

Spanish Coordinator: Antonio Mogollon [antoniomogollon@ollmlb.org]

Parish Website: [www.ollmlb.org](http://www.ollmlb.org)

Phone: (321) 723-3636

**Mass Schedule:**

Monday through Friday 8:15 am

Saturday: 4:00 pm

Saturday: 6:00 pm [Spanish]

Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:30 am

**Adoration Hour:** Wednesdays 10:00-11:00 am

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Saturday 3:00 pm – 3:45 pm

### **Registration**

Registration is opened to all students from Pre-K (3 year old) through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. All students must have a completed registration form on file before admitted to class. Forms are available online [www.olmlb.org](http://www.olmlb.org) or in Ministries Building 1626 Oak Street, Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 4:00 pm.

### **Circle of Grace Safe Environment Presentation**

Circle of Grace is an one hour program that guides parents in talking with their children about relationships at age-appropriate levels with an aim at preventing bullying and child abuse. At least one parent/guardian must attend with their child or complete an opt-out form. The Circle of Grace safe environment presentation will be scheduled during regular class time throughout the year.

### **Attendance**

Especially in the predominately secular world today, the opportunity for your child to be among their peers in a Catholic religious education program is very important. We urge you to make regular attendance an important part of your family schedule.

### **Mass**

The celebration of the Mass is at the heart of our faith. Attendance at Mass is even more important than religious education class. The child's spiritual health is nourished by their participation. Try to sit close to the altar or aisle where your child's sight is not hindered. If Mass is important to you, it will be important to your child too.

### **Restrooms**

Restrooms will be open during class times. For safety reasons, the younger children will not be permitted to use the facilities unless accompanied by an assistant or the teacher. Children should use the facilities at home or before class to limit the time that students are out of the classroom.

### **Discipline**

Teachers and staff will not tolerate rude or disruptive behavior in their classrooms or in the church. Your child will be warned once and if the behavior does not improve, the child will be brought to the office and the parent or guardian will be notified. It may be necessary for a parent to attend class with his/her child to ensure compliance with rules.

### **Sign-out**

Students are to be signed-out in the classroom by their parents or guardian. For their safety, students are not allowed in the classroom without the teacher.

## Curriculum

In addition to the particular focus of each year, all grades celebrate the seasons of the liturgical calendar throughout the year. Students are expected to gain an understanding of the concepts required at each grade level before progressing to the next level.

### Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS)

#### Level 1 (3 – 6 years old) and Level II (6 – 9 years old)

CGS is a Montessori faith formation process which allows your child to experience God through hands-on presentations of scripture, liturgy and the sacraments. The classroom is a prayerful, sacred place called an atrium where children are invited to work independently. Class size is limited to 8 children per session.

### Kindergarten

Children are welcomed into God's World. They will recognize that God made us, the world and everything in it. Children will learn about the Holy Family, Catholic traditions, holidays and prayers.

### Grade 1

Reinforces the concepts that God made the world and everything in it and provide students with a clear introduction to Jesus. Along with many other concepts, the children will learn about Jesus as our friend, teacher, Son of God and Mary.

### Grade 2

Review and reinforces the concepts of the previous year and prepares them to receive First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. Children along with their parents or guardian attend special sacramental preparation classes in addition to religious education class.

### Grade 3

The curriculum introduces the student to The Church – they will identify Church, recall the story of Jesus and His disciples. Children will identify the Holy Spirit and His work in the Church.

### Grade 4

This year is primarily moralistic. It is through this course of this year when students will be expected to learn and practice the rules we all live by. The main focus is the Ten Commandments and Beatitudes.

### Grade 5

The focus of this year is the Sacraments of the Church. The students will be expected to name the sacraments and understand what they mean, identify Sacraments of Initiation, Service and Healing.

### Grade 6

The sixth year focus is the Old Testament. It is a time when students become serious students of the Word of God. The student will explain the revelation and guidance of the Holy Spirit; recognize books of the Bible and learn about the symbols and the people.

### Grade 7

The seventh year focus is the New Testament. The study of the four Gospels and our following Jesus both by word and example. They will study the parables of Jesus and the Paschal Mystery.

### Grade 8

The focus this year is on teen issues, Catholic faith, life, scripture and morality. Students will attend a retreat in preparation for Grade 9 Confirmation.

### **Vacation Bible School – Catholic Summer Program**

We invite children to attend our summer program in June of each year for one week (9:00 am – 12:00 pm). The program is for children ages Pre-school through Grade 6. Each day the children take part in fun scripture-themed activities that help them connect their faith to real life. Adult and teenage volunteers are encouraged to join in the fun!