

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church
Religious Education
Parent Handbook



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Catechesis of the Good Shepherd – Level 1 (3 – 6 year old)

Ministries Building – 1606 Oak Street

Sunday: 9:00 am – 10:15 am

Wednesday: 6:45 pm – 8:00 pm [Spanish]

Religious Education Classes – Grades K through Grade 8

Our Lady of Lourdes School – 420 Fee Avenue

Sunday: 9:00 am – 10:15 am [English]

Wednesday: 6:45 pm – 8:00 pm [Spanish]

Middle School EDGE Youth Group – Grades 6 through Grade 8

Wednesday: 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm (Youth House – 1808 Hickory Street)

High School LIFETEEN Youth Group

Sunday: 4:00 pm – 5:45 pm (Youth House – 1801 Hickory Street)

Mass Schedule:

Monday through Friday 8:15 am

Saturday: 4:00 pm

Saturday: 6:00 pm [Spanish]

Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:30 am & 6:00 pm

Adoration: Wednesdays 9:00 am - 6:00 pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 3:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Registration

Registration is opened to all students from Pre-K (3 years old) through high school. All students must have a completed registration form on file before admitted to class. Forms are available online www.olmlb.org or in Ministries Building 1626 Oak Street, Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 4:00 pm.

Volunteers

We welcome and need many youth and adult volunteers in all our religious education programs. Volunteers 15 years and older require safe environment video training and fingerprinting through the Diocese of Orlando. To get started as a volunteer, please contact Patty Taylor at (321) 723-3636 or pattytaylor@olmlb.org

Attendance

Especially in the predominately secular world today, the opportunity for your child to be among their peers in a Catholic faith formation program is precious and invaluable. We urge you to make regular attendance an important part of your family schedule. If absent, please arrange to get make-up material or assignment with your teacher.

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.

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.

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 parent or guardian will be notified. It may be necessary for a parent/guardian to attend class with his/her child to ensure compliance with rules.

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)

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 12 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 the Blessed Mother Mary.

Grade 2

Review and reinforcement of the concepts of the previous year and prepares them to receive First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. Children along with their parents/guardian attend special sacramental preparation classes in addition to Sunday or Wednesday religious education class. Please see separate calendar for these Sacraments.

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 Confirmation in 9th Grade.

Middle School EDGE Program (Grades 6, 7 and 8th)

EDGE provides a safe, fun place for middle school youth to gather and focus on their relationship with God, Scripture and community.

High School LIFETEEN Program (Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12th)

LIFETEEN is a youth group program with a focus on human and spiritual formation and fellowship. LIFETEEN strengthens our teen's Catholic identity, while rooting them firmly in Christ and His Church.

Sacrament of Confirmation

Preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation is open to those in 9th Grade or in high school who have yet to receive Confirmation. Students will focus on their relationship with Jesus and strengthen their knowledge, faith and sense of belonging to the Church. Students attend special sacrament preparation classes. Please see separate Confirmation calendar for session dates and time. Contact Aaron Myler, Youth Minister at aaronmyler@ollmlb.org or (321) 723-3636 with any questions and further information.

Circles of Grace – Safe Environment Program

This program guides parents/guardians 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 and opt-out form. Please see religious education calendar for your family's safe environment class date.

Vacation Bible School (VBS) – Catholic Summer Enrichment 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 designed for children Pre-school (3 year old) through Grade 6. Each day the children take part in fun Scripture-themed activities that help them connect their faith to real life. Many adult and youth volunteers are needed to help make room decorations as well as leading the different stations: snack, games, Bible Adventures, Kid Vid, Imagination, as well as dancers, actors and actresses. Everyone who participates as well as volunteers will be beautifully enriched in their faith!