



*St. Frances Cabrini Parish  
Religious Education Program  
Parent/Student Policy Handbook  
School Year 2011 - 2012*

*Web Address: [www.stfrances.org](http://www.stfrances.org)  
Phone Number: (352) 686-9954  
Fax Number: (352) 688-2660*

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page 1 . . . . .	Religious Education staff, phone numbers, office hours
Page 2 . . . . .	Mission Statement; Letter from the Pastor; Mark Your Calendar
Page 3 . . . . .	Enrollment policy; Registration fees; Documents; Curriculum
Page 4 . . . . .	<b><i>St. Frances Cabrini Religious Education Policies</i></b> Attendance Schedule of Classes
Page 5 . . . . .	Safety; Classroom layout
Page 6 . . . . .	Conduct and Discipline within the St. Frances Cabrini Religious Education Program and Communication
Page 7 . . . . .	Code of Conduct for Children & Youth in <i>Diocese of St. Petersburg, FL</i>
Page 8 . . . . .	Harassment Policy for Non-Employment Situations in Schools/Centers, Parish Religious Education & Youth Ministry; <i>Diocese of St. Petersburg, FL</i>
Page 9 . . . . .	Safe Environments Policy, <i>Diocese of St. Petersburg, FL</i> Confidentiality NCEA ACRE Assessment
Page 10 . . . . .	Sacramental Preparation Baptism First Reconciliation and First Communion
Page 11 . . . . .	Sacramental Preparation Confirmation RCIA Adapted for Children
Page 12 . . . . .	Other Programs available Liturgy of the Word Little Nazareth Vacation Bible School Moms and Tots Middle School (The Edge) High School Youth Ministry (LIFE TEEN)
Page 13 . . . . .	General Information Inclement Weather Policy Parent/Student Policies Acknowledgement Signature Page
Page 14 . . . . .	Organizations & Ministries Share Your Time With Us Notre Dame Catholic School
Insert . . . . .	School Year Calendar/Other Important Dates

***St. Frances Cabrini Parish  
Office of Religious Education  
5030 Mariner Blvd.  
Spring Hill, Fl. 34609  
Phone (352) 686-9954  
Fax (352) 688-2660***

**Our Parish Religious Education Staff**

***Pastor***

*Rev. Richard Jankowski*

***Parochial Vicars***

*Rev. Krzysztof Gazdowicz  
Rev. Andrew Beaudoin, SSS.  
Rev. Edward Wal*

***Director of Religious Education***

*Sherri Collinsworth, ext. 201*

***Religious Education Administrative Assistant***

*Sandi Sperlazza, ext. 202*

***Coordinator of Early Childhood Education***

*Roxanne Norris, ext. 203*

***Office Assistant***

*Dolores Conigliero*

***Religious Education Office Hours***

***During School Year ~ Mon.-Thurs.***

*9:00 A.M.– 1:00 P.M. & 3:00 – 7:00 P.M.*

***Summer Hours ~ Mon.-Thurs.***

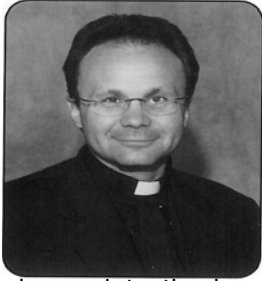
*8:00 A. M. – 12 Noon & 1:00 – 3:00 P. M.*

***The Office of Religious Education is closed on Friday***

***Offices and Classrooms are located  
in Cabrini Center***

**Web site @ [www.stfrances.org](http://www.stfrances.org)—click on Religious Education  
for important information.**

# Welcome to our Religious Education Program 2011-2012



Dear St. Frances Cabrini Families,

We are all traveling together on our faith journey. This journey began for most of us as children with the sacrament of baptism. Faith formation is a lifetime of experiences and information; sacraments and spiritual enlightenment, rich ways to draw us deeper into the love of our Father. For your children, the 2011-2012 faith formation season is an important time of grace as they grow in their lives with Christ.

We are blessed at St. Frances Cabrini Parish with a religious education program for our children and youth that is flourishing with dedicated catechists, staff, and parents who support the faith educational needs of their children. Never be afraid to claim your spiritual inheritance as a Catholic parent or guardian by being the best and first teacher of your children in the ways of the faith. Make this the season in which your whole family actively engages in spiritual growth through:

- Faithfulness to Sunday Mass
- Frequent and sincere participation in reconciliation
- Daily family prayer and faith sharing

May God bless each and every one of you this year during your journey in faith and may the Holy Spirit shine upon you as you grow spiritually stronger day by day.

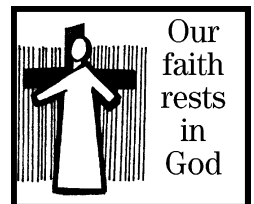
Father Richard Jankowski, Pastor

## The Mission of Religious Education

Upon saying His final farewell to His apostles, Jesus gave His new church the task to evangelize, that is, to bring the message of the Gospel to all the world (*Acts 1,8*). The bishops of the United States have pointed out that the first goal of evangelization is to "bring about in all Catholics such an enthusiasm for their faith that, in living their faith in Jesus, they freely share it with others" (*Go and Make Disciples*). The mission of evangelization calls Catholic children "to be formed into disciples through the family's faith life and religious education." The family, then is the first forum in which the mission of evangelization takes place. Hence, parents are recognized as having the primary responsibility for training their children in the practice of the faith (*Vatican II, The Church in the Modern World*).

Parish Religious Education programs assist in this sacred duty by providing opportunities for parents and children to develop their prayer lives and their formal understanding of the faith.

The gift of faith, which begins at Baptism, must be nourished throughout the entire life of each Christian. The family is rightfully called the "domestic church," and as such, is the foundation of the wider church community. Religious education within the Diocese of St. Petersburg serves the domestic church by offering the guidance and instruction whereby each individual can come to their full potential as members of the People of God. Sincere cooperation between the parish and its member families will bring about the goal of evangelizing youth and children, namely, that they grow in understanding and accepting Catholic Doctrine, in their active participation in and awareness of Catholic Liturgical and Sacramental life, their embracing of the fundamental principles of Catholic Morality and the life of Catholic Prayer (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*).



## Mark Your Calendar

### 9th Grade Confirmation Class Schedule

#### Mandatory Meeting:

Parent/Student Orientation: **Aug. 14, 2011**  
2:00pm in the Church

#### Mandatory Attendance required

For **ONE** of the following:

Boys' Retreat date: **Sept. 17, 2011**      Girls' Retreat date: **Sept. 24, 2011**

OR

**\*\*Weekend retreat OFF premises**  
**Oct. 7, Oct. 8, Oct. 9, 2011**

**\*(involves an additional \$45.00 fee)**

**Mandatory final retreat for all: (Xavier Hall)**  
**January 28, 2012**

**Confirmation Date—To Be Announced**

#### **First Reconciliation**

Reconciliation Retreat **November 5, 2011**  
Mandatory Parent Mtg. **Nov. 7 — 10, 2011**  
First Reconciliation **January 14, 2012**

#### **First Eucharist**

Mandatory Parent Mtg. **February 13-16, 2012**  
First Eucharist Retreat **February 25, 2012**  
First Eucharist **May 5, 2012**  
May Crowning **May 6, 2012**

#### **Religious Education Baptisms**

Baptism Retreat **March 30, 2012**  
Sacrament of Baptism **March 31, 2012**

# Parish & Diocesan Policies & Procedures



## Enrollment Policy

Families who wish to enroll children in Religious Education classes must be registered parishioners. We will not take a student enrollment until this is done. Registration forms can be picked up, completed, and brought back to the Parish Office.

**\$15.00 Discounted Enrollment Fee  
If paid by mail and postmarked by  
7/31/11**

### Kindergarten – 8th grades

<i>One Child</i>	<b>\$40</b>
<i>One Child/Sacramental Prep.</i>	<b>\$55</b>
<i>Two or More Children</i>	<b>\$55</b>
<i>Two or More Children with one Receiving Sacraments</i>	<b>\$70</b>
<i>Two or More Children with two Receiving Sacraments</i>	<b>\$85</b>
<i>Confirmation Weekend Retreat (if chosen)-additional</i>	<b>\$45</b>

No child will be refused if the family cannot afford the entire registration fee. In order to discuss a reduction in fees, please contact the Director of Religious Education. Also, alternative payment methods are available. If previous arrangements are not made with the DRE, every family is expected to pay the full enrollment fee. All fees are non-refundable once your child's first scheduled class has begun.

We can understand that situations occur which make class session changes necessary, however more than one class session change will incur an additional \$5.00 charge per request.

## CURRICULUM

The Pflaum Gospel Weeklies share the vision of the revised General directory for Catechesis (GDC) that Jesus' parable of the sower (Mark 4:1-8) inspires the Church's mission of evangelization and catechesis. The sower in the parable is Jesus Christ. The seed is the Word of God. The field is the world (GDC #15).

Jesus proclaimed his Gospel in Palestine 2,000 years ago and sent disciples to sow the Good News of God's forgiving, healing, life-giving love in the world. Today, the Spirit animates ministers of the Word—preachers, parents, teachers, and catechists—to continue this sowing in the good ground of Christians' lives and through them in the field of the world. For more information on grades K-8 please visit the website at [www.pflaum.com/familypages](http://www.pflaum.com/familypages).

## Documents

Every family of a child enrolling for classes for the first time must bring a copy of a baptism certificate and records of other Sacraments. Students transferring from another parish must bring documentation stating their attendance in religious education classes during the past year. In addition, when a child is to be baptized, a birth certificate, application form, and sponsor form must be provided. Confirmation students also must provide sponsor forms and saint reports **before** they can enroll in the program.

**Enrollment Fee  
\*If paid after 7/31/11**

### Kindergarten – 8th grades

<i>One Child</i>	<b>\$55</b>
<i>One Child/Sacramental Prep.</i>	<b>\$70</b>
<i>Two or More Children</i>	<b>\$70</b>
<i>Two or More Children with one Receiving Sacraments</i>	<b>\$85</b>
<i>Two or More Children with two Receiving Sacraments</i>	<b>\$100</b>
<i>Confirmation Weekend Retreat (if chosen)-additional</i>	<b>\$45</b>

\*Due to the cost to cover the extra shipping and handling of curriculum and classroom supplies that are incurred after the registration deadline there is an increase in fees. All fees are non-refundable once your child's first scheduled class has begun.

# **Religious Education Policies**

**(These policies apply to all age groups unless otherwise noted.)  
If policies are not followed, it may indicate that our program may not be conducive to meet your individual needs and withdrawal from the program may be necessary.**

Please read the following guidelines thoroughly and discuss them with your family. They are designed to ensure the safety of the children and to provide an environment that nurtures Catholic spirituality and upholds a Catholic sacramental mindset.

## ***Faith***

When your child was baptized, you publicly promised to pass on the Faith to him or her.

- Regular attendance at Sunday Mass is expected.
- Religious Education is not a substitute for Sunday Mass.
- Both are essential to the Religious Education and Faith Formation of your child.

## ***Attendance***

Regular attendance is essential. All absences require either a written excuse presented to the classroom catechist or phone call to the Office of Religious Education at (686-9954). Absences can be considered excused only if oral or written communication is provided to the Director of Religious Education. Students who are chronically absent may be withdrawn from the program, after notification from the Director of Religious Education. Tardiness is a distraction to both students and catechists and valuable instruction time is lost. Please do your utmost to arrive on time. **Please advise your child(ren) to use the bathroom facilities before they arrive for class.** We have available bathroom facilities here on the parish grounds, however, excessive use of the facilities may result in the parent/guardian having to stay in the classroom with their child so they can escort them to and from the restroom because we do not have personnel to supervise the restroom area.

**For health and safety reasons, please have your child(ren) bring a pencil to class each week.**

### **RCIA Adapted for Children**

(First Year): Class will be held on Tuesday evenings.

(Second Year): Class will be held on Thursday evenings.

### **Kindergarten classes**

Monday or Tuesday evenings (Parents' choice)

### **Grades 1 – 8**

Classes are held one night a week (Mon.-Thurs.\*)

(Parents' choice: Grades 1-8 are available on Mon, Tues., and Wed.)

(\*grades 1, 2, and 8 are available on Thurs.)

### **Grade 9**

Confirmation Class information will be available at the time of registration.

Please see the religious education calendar for specific dates.

*If changes to the above schedule become necessary,  
you will be notified by mail of the changes affecting your child(ren).*

**Dismissal is at 6:45 PM for all grades (except 9th),**  
including RCIA Adapted for Children (First Year) on Tuesday evenings and  
RCIA Adapted for Children (Second Year) on Thursday evenings.

If you are delayed and do not pick up your child(ren) promptly,  
the child(ren) will be in the office waiting for you.

***Please pick up your children promptly at their classroom at dismissal.***

# SAFETY

## *Schedule of Classes*

***Classes are held from 5:30 p.m. until 6:45 p.m. as follows:***

From the moment a child leaves home until he or she reaches the parish grounds and from the moment he or she leaves the parish grounds, the parent or guardian is responsible for the safety of the child.

Please instruct your child not to leave the office if you are going to be delayed. Please tell your child not to accept rides from friends or other relatives without your permission. If you are delayed, you must notify the office if you have delegated someone else to take your child home.

Our catechists and office personnel are not permitted to dispense medicine to any child. Parents may come to the office to give medicine to their child if it is essential that they receive it during the hours they are in class. Exceptions can be made only in extraordinary circumstances.

Children are not allowed to wear roller shoes to class and should not arrive for class chewing gum or carrying gum, candy, or toys. An exception is when they are bringing a treat for class. Unless your child is bringing a contribution to one of our collections for the poor, it is wise not to permit them to carry large amounts of money.

Treats are served to the children occasionally. We ask on the registration form if your child has an allergy that we should be aware of. If however, this important fact is overlooked, please notify us by phone or letter. Tell us what can be offered as an alternative. In extreme cases, parents may be asked to provide a treat that their child can have.

If parents are divorced or separated, the Religious Education program presumes that both parents have access to the children's records unless one parent can provide evidence that he or she has the sole right and sole custody. Information about the child's records and attendance will not be discussed with, or sent to, any other relatives or friends without parental permission. The only people who can pick up the children are those listed on the registration form. If someone other than those on the form will be picking them up, the office must be notified ahead of time.

***There is no smoking permitted in the classrooms or in the Religious Education Office.***

**North Side  
Noremac St  
Classrooms**

A	B	1	2	3	4
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Cabrini Center  
Office Door

5	6	7	8	9	10	11
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**South Side  
Norvell St.  
Classrooms**

Please assist us in providing a safe environment for all students.

- ⇒ **Parents** of children in **kindergarten through third grade** **must** park their car in a designated parking space in any parking lot, and bring their children to the classroom door. Older siblings in the program **may not escort the younger children** to their classrooms.
- ⇒ No child from any grade will be dismissed from the classroom to go to the parking lot on their own.
- ⇒ Parents will park their car in any parking lot, whichever one is most convenient, and come to pick up their children who will be waiting in the classrooms — grades K to 8th. Catechists are instructed **not to release** children unless the parent comes to the door. Older siblings **may not** pick up younger siblings at the door.
- ⇒ If a parent is disabled and cannot come to the classroom, arrangements can be made in advance, so that a staff member or catechist can accompany the child to the car.
- ⇒ If a child is not picked up at dismissal time, the catechist will bring the child to the Religious Education Office, and the child will wait for the parent there.
- ⇒ **Absolutely no one is allowed to park along the cones.** Everyone must park in a designated parking space in any parking lot. No child will go to a car unaccompanied by an adult.
- ⇒ If you need to pick up your child early, do not go directly to the classroom. Go to the Religious Education Office in Cabrini Center and inform the staff.
- ⇒ Parents should not leave a child in a classroom unattended by a catechist.
- ⇒ All of the above mentioned policies are enforced and pertain to the safety of all children who are on the premises while classes are in session.
- ⇒ Non adherence to program policies may necessitate withdrawal from the program.

## CONDUCT

Students are expected to participate in class activities and discussions. Life as a Christian is a commitment to live by the example of Jesus Christ. This includes accepting responsibility for conduct and actions, along with the commitment to respect the rights of others.

Please review the class rules with your child and support the catechists and administration in enforcing the rules. The first four of the following rules are posted in the classrooms.

1. Respect all people and all property.
2. Raise your hand and wait to be recognized.
3. Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself.
4. Follow the teacher's instructions.
5. Disruptions, disrespect, insubordination, profanity and illegal activities will not be tolerated.
6. Students are not permitted to smoke on the premises.

## DISCIPLINE

Cooperation, attention, and courtesy are always expected during class time. Any student, who continually disturbs a class and fails to cooperate with the catechist and other students within a class, will be subject to the following procedures:

- <>< The catechist will handle normal discipline problems. If a problem becomes persistent, the student will be sent to the Director of Religious Education. A continuing problem may necessitate a call to the parents. A parent may be requested to attend class with a child in extreme cases and ultimately removal from the program may be necessary. Disciplinary infractions include, but are not limited to abusive language, fighting, vandalism, disrespect to catechist or other students, stealing, and leaving the premises during class time. Students who choose to leave the activity site will not be allowed to re-enter, and the parish will no longer be responsible for them.
- <>< In the case of illegal activities, proper authorities will be contacted.
- <>< The administration reserves the right to confiscate any inappropriate items during class, especially those that may cause harm to themselves or others.
- <>< Please do not allow your children to bring any valuable items to the Religious Education Classes with them. We will not be responsible for personal items.

## COMMUNICATION



- <>< Important information and notices will be provided for you in the parish bulletin. Bulletins are distributed at Mass every weekend.
- <>< Letters and notices will be mailed to you periodically, and will also be placed in your child's folder. Please read all letters and notices carefully.
- <>< Please follow the calendar that we provide to you at time of enrollment, or any amended calendar we provide during the school year.
- <>< Please note that we rely on you to keep us informed of important developments in your family life such as address and telephone changes that affect our ability to serve you.
- <>< Important information is on our Web site @ [www.stfrances.org](http://www.stfrances.org)—click on Religious Education.

## Code of Conduct for Children and Youth Within the Diocese of St. Petersburg, FL

The first premise of this code is that children and youth function best when behaviors and expectations are clearly defined. It is accepted that parents are the first and foremost educators of their children in all aspects of their development. This experience aims at developing upright citizens and good Christians, following the new commandment Jesus gave His disciples, "A new commandment I give unto you that you love one another." (John 13:34-35).

In Timothy 4:12 we read "Let no one have contempt for your youth, but set an example for those who believe, in speech, conduct, love, faith and purity." Timothy is urged to rely on the gifts he has received from God. This code urges our children and youth to rely on God's gifts to them, especially charity, chastity, and purity. This calls the young person to acknowledge and promote one's personal dignity and the rights that go with it.

It becomes important for children and youth to know the difference between "right" and "not right" relationships. "Right" relationships foster personal, spiritual, and emotional growth, e.g., the ability to communicate, to forgive, to show affection, to be honest, vulnerable, dependable, etc. "Not right" relationships become harmful and hurtful, and even abusive. Abuse occurs when someone does not respect another's boundaries, uses power, tricks, threats, or violence to cross or change another's boundaries, or inflicts hurtful or unwanted behavior (physical, verbal, emotional, or sexual) on another person. This code is used in conjunction with existing local or diocesan policies, protocols or other codes and is not intended to supersede them.

When engaging in formal and informal activities, functions, and programs, children and youth are expected to behave appropriately at all times, respecting the rights of others.

1. Christian behavior is expected at all times.
2. Respect for individuals, the community and facilities being used is required.
3. Cooperation and self-control are necessary when participating in programs and activities.
4. Dress must be in accord with the activity and appropriate for a Christian environment.
5. Unacceptable behavior and lack of cooperation will not be tolerated, but will be addressed appropriately.

Examples of unacceptable behavior are as follows, though not limited to:

- *Disrespect for adults and peers*
  - *Use of vulgar language or gesture, use of racial slurs*
  - *Damaging of property*
  - *Fighting or intent to injure others*
  - *Constant disturbance of others at work or in an activity*
  - *Cheating*
6. Possession of weapons, possession, sale or use of alcohol or drugs are forbidden.
  7. No child or youth has the right to treat another in any manner that will cause physical or emotional pain.
  8. Coercion or threats to do something physically hurtful or for the purpose of exposing someone or something about another is unacceptable behavior.
  9. Chastity is a virtue to be held in high esteem and promoted in practice. Sexual abuse of any sort, coercing a person to engage in sexual acts against her or his will, physically touching the sexual parts of another's body, treating a person like a sexual object are unacceptable and abusive behaviors. Consensual sex between students or initiated by minors to adults must never occur.

Therefore harassment of any kind is un-Christian and unacceptable.

## **HARASSMENT POLICY FOR NON-EMPLOYMENT SITUATIONS IN SCHOOLS/CENTERS, PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND PARISH YOUTH MINISTRY PROGRAMS OF THE DIOCESE OF**

### ***Policy:***

The Diocese of St. Petersburg requires that each parish; Catholic school or early childhood center establish and adopt this policy that prohibits any form of harassment by any individual. The Diocese of St. Petersburg strives for the establishment of a Christian, professional and supportive educational environment for all persons engaged in or involved with the religious education programs, schools and early childhood centers, and parish youth ministry programs in non-employment situations. No parish, school, or early childhood center will be responsible for off campus harassment, unless it occurs at a parish-, school-, or early childhood center-sponsored event.

### ***Purpose of the Policy:***

This policy intends

- That each individual is free from physical, psychological or verbal intimidation and harassment in the schools, early childhood centers, religious education and youth ministry settings;
- That each individual involved in schools, early childhood centers, religious education and youth ministry programs maintain and further develop attitudes and behaviors which express respect for others and are reflective of each person's God-given dignity.
- To encourage a heightened sensitivity toward behaviors that others may find offensive and intimidating, whether these behaviors refer to race, religion, color, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, age, marital status, familial status, veteran status or disability;

This policy is not intended to otherwise limit the expectation of staff, children, students, and volunteers to engage fully in the traditions of teachings, celebrating, participating in and being formed by the Catholic faith, including but not limited to curriculum, catechesis, the Sacraments, other liturgies, worship services and ministries.

### ***Explanation of Harassment:***

Harassment can result from a single incident or from a pattern of behavior involving verbal, written or physical conduct or communication.

Harassment encompasses a broad range of behaviors, which could include, but are not limited to:

1. Physical, mental or verbal abuse
2. Insults, jokes, or derogatory slurs based on one or more of an individual's protected status(es)
3. Unwelcome sexual advances or touching
4. Implicit or explicit requests for sexual favors
5. Unwanted sexual comments (serious or humorous)
6. Unwanted sexually suggestive telephone calls, letters, e-mail, etc.
7. Comments or jokes based on issues of modesty and developing social awareness
8. Unwanted forced involvement in activities (e.g., physical, religious, etc.)
9. Coercion of religious styles of personal beliefs upon a participant
10. Intimidation in front of a group or forced personal sharing in groups
11. Inappropriate media or music use which would violate this policy

## SAFE ENVIRONMENTS POLICY:

The Diocese of St. Petersburg has mandated that all adult staff and volunteers who are entrusted with the care or supervision of children, the elderly, or the infirmed **MUST** be trained on the Safe Environments policy. This parish follows the Diocese of St. Petersburg policy on Safe Environments to provide such training on the subject to catechists and assistants. The purpose of the training is to:

- Teach practical ways to establish safe environments and relationships for all children and adults.
- Identify and protect youth and adult rights, identify barriers to abuse in church programs, etc.
- Provide information on identification of child abuse warning signs.
- Provide information on behavioral cues of sexual abusers.
- Provide information on appropriate response to an abuse disclosure or discovery.
- Provide information on appropriate reporting procedures for suspected or actual abuse.

In addition to the above, all catechists and assistants are finger printed and background checked.

*Further information regarding this policy is available in the Religious Education Office.*

## CONFIDENTIALITY:

The right to confidentiality, both of the complainant and of the accused, will be respected to the extent possible, but will be consistent with legal obligations and with the necessity to investigate allegations of misconduct and to take corrective action when this conduct has occurred.

## NCEA ACRE ASSESSMENT

The 5th and 8th grade students will be participating in the NCEA Assessment of Catechesis/Religious Education (NCEA ACRE). The revised 2001 NCEA ACRE represents the next generation of program assessments for catechesis/religious education developed by the National Catholic Educational Association to:

- Serve as a tool for assessing the effectiveness of catechetical/religious education programs;
- Offer a picture of where grade 5 (Level 1) and 8 (Level 2) students are in terms of their basic religious knowledge;
- Assess the religious beliefs, attitudes, practices, and perceptions of students in these grades in addition to an evaluation of their religious knowledge; and,
- Provide information about areas of strengths in catechetical/religious education programs as well as areas that may need additional attention or improvement.



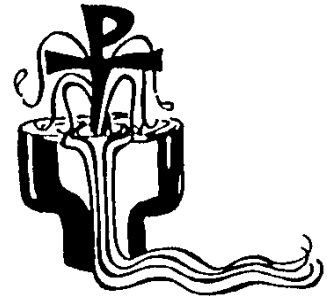
## SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

Our Sacramental preparation process is a partnership between parish and family. It is a separate process from the regular Religious Education classes, Home school, and Catholic School. Preparation is based on both a child's readiness and the family's willingness to make a true commitment to prepare their child for reception of these gracious gifts of God. Parents are given the opportunity to learn more about their own faith and share it with their child during this time of preparation. Support is provided through mandatory Sacramental Preparation Parent classes. These adult classes are **NOT optional**.

**General:** Baptismal certificates must be on file before any child is admitted to a Sacramental Preparation class. A Sacramental Enrollment Agreement must be signed when enrolling for any of the Sacrament Preparation programs. This includes Baptism, First Eucharist, and Confirmation. This agreement outlines specific requirements for preparation.

### Baptism of Children & Youth

At the parent's request, children enrolled in our Religious Education Program who have not been baptized will be prepared for Baptism during the course of their first year of enrollment. Baptism will take place at the end of a full year of instruction. Parents will complete a Request for Baptism form, to start the process. During the school year, children and parents will be required to attend a Baptism Retreat prior to the Baptism. We also require the completion of Godparent Sponsor forms, and submission of the child's Birth Certificate.



### First Reconciliation and First Communion for Second Grade

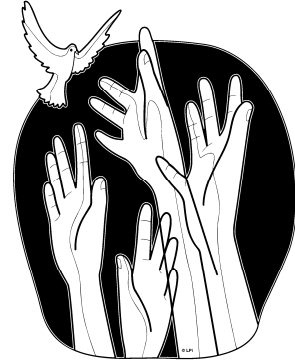
Our children usually receive the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Communion after satisfactorily completing both first and second grade. Second grade children, who have not completed a first grade religious education class either here or in another Catholic parish or school, are placed in first grade. They will receive these sacraments after completing both first and second grade.



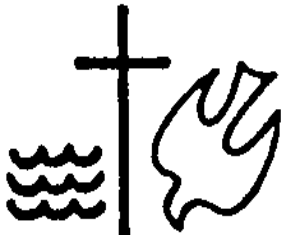
- Sacramental preparation classes and meetings are required **IN ADDITION** to religious education classes.
  - Regular attendance at Sunday Mass is expected.
  - Parental participation is essential in the preparation for sacraments. **One parent is required to attend one meeting for First Reconciliation preparation and one meeting for First Communion Preparation.** In addition to the meetings, you may be required to participate in several preparation activities with your child.
  - Children will be required to attend one retreat for First Reconciliation preparation, and one retreat for First Eucharist preparation.
- Notre Dame families, who are registered parishioners of St. Frances Cabrini Parish, are required to participate in the sacramental preparation program with other parish families; students will participate in preparation activities for the sacraments.
  - Information, including dates and times of meetings, gatherings, sacraments and rehearsals are found in both your handbook and school year calendar. Please read the bulletin and check your mail for further information.

## SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION (Continued)

### Confirmation



Students normally receive the Sacrament of Confirmation after satisfactorily completing the 8th grade curriculum. The second semester of 8th grade consists of solid sacramental theology; includes the elements of ritual, prayer, Scripture, doctrine, and reflection; and is centered in "the community, which lives, celebrates and bears witness to the faith" (General directory for Catechesis 68). The immediate preparation for Confirmation takes place in the 9th grade which involves mandatory parent meetings and retreats. Parents of students in 8th grade will receive a packet with all the required documents before the end of the school year at a mandatory parent meeting. All Confirmation documents: Saint reports, Sponsor forms, and Baptism certificates must be returned to the Religious Education Office at the time the child(ren) are enrolled in the program. Documentation of 20 required community service hours must be completed one month prior to the sacrament.



*RCIA Adapted for Children  
Sacramental Preparation for Older Children*

Please contact the *Director of Religious Education at 686-9954, ext. 201*  
for further information regarding this program.

## CHILDREN'S PROGRAM'S

**Liturgy of the Word for Children** is offered for children ages 5-10 at the 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Masses on Sundays. The children come to church and sit with their parents. After the opening prayer of the Mass, catechists lead the children from the church to Xavier Hall and return to sit with their parents during the Offertory. During their time together, the Scripture of the day is read and taught to them on their own level by the interaction with the catechists.

**Little Nazareth Sunday School for 2-5 Year Olds** is available during the 9 a.m. & 11 a.m. Masses on Sundays. Sunday school is a structured class in which children engage in activities including prayer, songs, snacks, and crafts. Each week, the Gospel message and a related activity are presented to the children on their level. This program will operate with the "silent pager system" focusing on having the children in a safe environment.

**Vacation Bible School** is held for one week during the summer. Children between the ages of 5 (as of June 1, 2011) and 13 enjoy participating in interactive learning centers, which include music, drama and craft activities. All activities focus on bible stories, Christ's life and our Catholic faith.

**Moms & Tots** is a program whose purpose is to give children, ages 2 to 4 the opportunity to interact socially, to develop learning skills and to prepare for Kindergarten in a faith-filled environment. Moms & Tots meet on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:45 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. in Cabrini Center. Parents **MUST** remain on the premises. A \$75 fee is charged at the time of enrollment in this program. Fees are non-refundable once your child's first scheduled class has begun.



### ***Middle School Youth Ministry (The Edge)***

*The Edge* is our youth program that ministers to students in the sixth, seventh & eighth grades. *The Edge* meets every Monday evening from 7:00 pm—8:30 p.m. For more information about *The Edge* or other upcoming middle school events, check the parish bulletin.



### ***High School Youth Ministry (LIFE TEEN)***

LIFE TEEN is our youth program that ministers to students in ninth, tenth, eleventh, and twelfth grades. Life Teen's mission is to lead teens closer to Christ through the Eucharist. All are invited to attend Sunday 5:30 p.m. Mass and then the LIFE Night that takes place at 7:00 until 9:00 P.M.



## Inclement Weather Plan for Program Cancellation

Should a tropical storm or hurricane be forecast for our area, it may be necessary for Religious Education classes to be canceled. The decision to cancel will be based on the Hernando County School System's decision to cancel public school classes. Therefore, if the Hernando County School System cancels classes or night time activities, the Religious Education classes will also be canceled.

If you wish to confirm the decision to cancel classes, you may call the Religious Education office at **(352) 686-9954**. It is important to remember that the decision to cancel will stand firm regardless of improving weather conditions. It is better to be cautious than to be indecisive and create confusion.

### General Information

Check the parish bulletin, website, and your mail for notices and information. If you have any questions, feel free to call the Religious Education Office at **686-9954**. Always use this number when calling for Religious Education Information.

By placing your child in the St. Frances Cabrini Parish Religious Education program, you are agreeing to adhere to the policies as stated in this handbook.

The Director of Religious Education reserves the right to amend these guidelines at any time for any appropriate reason. Prompt notification of any changes made to this handbook or any guidelines will be made in writing to all that are enrolled in the Religious Education Program.

Although we try to follow the Hernando County school schedule, there may be dates when this is not possible. Please refer to the calendar we provide for the Religious Education class schedule, as it may differ from the Hernando County school schedule.

### Parent/Student Policies Acknowledgement

I/We have received the St. Frances Cabrini Parent/Student Handbook for Religious Education. I/We understand and agree to cooperate with the diocesan/parish policies set forth in this handbook. By signing the enrollment agreement included with the Religious Education form, we acknowledge these policies and agree to adhere to them.

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**SHARE YOUR TIME WITH US**

**If you feel God is calling you to help in one of the following positions,  
Please call the Religious Education Office at 686-9954**

- \*Catechist—Adults who teach and pass on the living faith. Training and materials will be provided as well as ongoing support.
- \*Assistant Catechist—Adults and young adults to assist the main catechist with class activities, attendance, provide special attention to students who need it, and fill in for the main catechist when necessary.
- \*Children’s Liturgy of the Word—Adults to lead this learning program each week during the 9:00am Mass and the 11:00am Mass which brings the Gospel to the children at a level that is easy to understand.
- \*Vacation Bible School—Adults and teens are needed for one week of fun! It is offered in June of each year for 5 days.
- Altar Server—Boys and girls of the parish who have made their First Communion and are in the 4th grade and older. After training, they are scheduled to serve at the weekend Masses.
- \*These positions require a Background Level II Screening, and SAFE Workshop for those volunteers 21 years and older.

**NOTRE DAME CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

**1095 Commercial Way**

**Spring Hill, FL 34606**

**Web Site: <http://www.ndischool.org/>**

**Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday-Friday**

**ORGANIZATION & MINISTRIES**

**For more information regarding the ministries listed below,  
please call the parish office at 683-9666.**

**ORGANIZATIONS & MINISTRIES**

Boy Scouts .....	Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m.
Cabrini Communities .....	Weekly, in members' homes
Charismatic Prayer Group.....	Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m.
CCW (Council of Catholic Women) .....	First Wednesday of the month at 8:30 a.m.
CCW Crafters .....	Thursdays at 9 a.m.
Counseling Services .....	By appointment, 683-9935 ext. 409
Cursillo .....	Fourth Saturday of the month at 8:45 a.m.
Divine Will Cenacle.....	Tuesdays at 9 a.m.
DivorceCare Support Group .....	Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.
Hope Anew Bereavement Support Group.....	Mondays at 10 a.m.
Knights of Columbus:	
Business Meeting .....	First Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m.
Fourth Degree Assembly.....	Second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m.
Parish Family Social .....	Third Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m.
Squires Circle.....	Second Saturday of the month at 10 a.m.
Lay Carmelite Community.....	Once a month at 9 a.m.
Living Rosary .....	Private recitation
Men's Club .....	First Friday of the month at 11:30 a.m.
Men's Faith Sharing Group .....	First Saturday of the month at 8:30 a.m.
Our Lady of Fatima Devotion .....	First Saturday of the month after the 8 a.m. Mass
Respect Life Rosary Recitation .....	Fourth Sunday of the month after the 5:30 p.m. Mass
Sunshine Club.....	Mondays at 11 a.m.
Weight Watchers.....	Fridays at 4:45 p.m.
Widowed & Singles Club .....	Second Wednesday of the month at 1 p.m.