

# St. Christopher Parish



## Religious Education

## Information Handbook



**2017-2018**

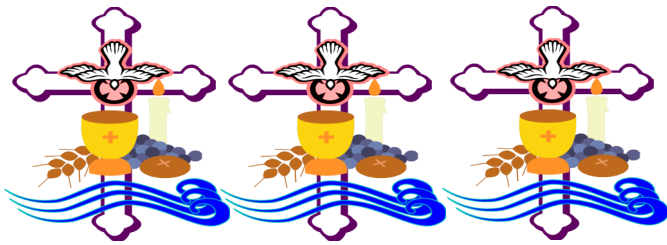
14611 S. Keeler Avenue

Room 21 of the School

Midlothian, IL 60445

708.388.4040

[www.stchrisre.com](http://www.stchrisre.com)



## MISSION STATEMENT

**The St. Christopher Religious Education Program** is designed to foster the faith life of each child. We are here to assist parent/guardians who are the primary religious educators of their children. We will provide opportunities for each person to experience the love of Jesus Christ.

Bernadine Smierciak

**Director of Religious Education**

[bsmierciak@stchrisschool.org](mailto:bsmierciak@stchrisschool.org)

Carol Pretkelis, School Principal

**Religious Education Coordinator**

[cpretkelis@st.chrisschool.org](mailto:cpretkelis@st.chrisschool.org)

Brenna Baker

**Administrative Assistant**

[Religiously@stchrisschool.org](mailto:Religiously@stchrisschool.org)

# 2017-2018 Calendar

Tuesdays

September 5, 12, 26

October 3, 10, 24

November 7, 14, 28

December 5, 12

January 9, 16, 30

February 6, 13, 27

March 6, 13

April 3, 10, 24

May 1

Additional Dates for special activities and masses will be sent home on the monthly calendar. Please check your child's folder weekly for special announcements.

### Faculty/Staff

Grade 1: Rebecca Orris  
Lynne Pieroth  
Grade 2: Sue Rosen  
Kathy Wojtasik  
Grade 3: Magdalena Anderson  
Grade 4: Veronica Leib  
Grade 5: Terry Battistella  
Grade 6: Nancy Courtney  
Grade 7: Barbara Hanson  
Grade 8: Terry Stephens  
Sacrament Class:  
Terry Battistella  
John McNichols

Aides:  
Sharon Laudadio  
Natalija Wall  
Denise Craig  
Sophia Wall  
Anna Dudek  
Sean Larmon  
Alison Dolbeer  
Lidija Bilus  
Vanessa Ragoza  
Cean Martinez  
Aleandra Hernandez  
Maegan Caldwell  
Claudia Torres

### Office Hours

**M-W-F:** 10:00AM-4:00PM

**T:** 1:00PM-8:00PM (When classes are in session)

10:00AM-4:00PM (Third Tuesday of the month)

**Closed Fridays**

*If you are in need of scheduling an appointment outside of these hours, please call the office.*

# TUITION

2017-2018

One Child:	\$270.00
Two Children:	\$385.00
Three or more Children:	\$490.00

## Sacraments Fees:

First Communion:	\$50.00
Confirmation:	\$50.00

St. Christopher Parish has made every effort to keep the cost of formation to a minimum.

- ♦ **All Tuition and Sacrament Fees** must be paid in full by March 1, 2018.
- ♦ **Tuition Statements** will be sent out monthly beginning in October.
- ♦ **Payments** can be made in person or mailed to the RE Office. Please be sure to include your parish number and child's name and grade.
- ♦ **If a Family is experiencing financial difficulty**, please contact the Religious Education Center as soon as possible.
- ♦ **Fundraising opportunities** to help reduce tuition will be announced throughout the year.
- ♦ **Catechists** receive free tuition.
- ♦ **Catechist Aides**, hallway monitors and receive 50% off their tuition.
- ♦ **Any person working with children** must complete VIRTUS training. Contact the RE office for details.
- ♦ **Families who have paid in full** will receive the 2018-2019 registration packet in March.
- ♦ **Registration** will take place In April and May 2018.
- ♦ **THERE WILL BE NO SUMMER 2018 REGISTRATION.**

## CLASS HOURS

Classes meet on the First, Second, and Fourth Tuesdays of each Month.

Grades 1-5 4:30PM-6:00PM

Grades 6-8 6:30PM-8:00PM

## Traffic Drop Off & Pick-Up

ENTER ON KARLOVE AVENUE

EXIT ON KEELER AVENUE

CARS ARE NOT ALLOWED IN THE CONED AREA IN FRONT OF THE SCHOOL LOBBY

FOR THE SAFETY OF CHILDREN

Children should exit cars on passenger side by the orange traffic cones and walk into the building. Parents may park closest to the church and walk children into building. ALL children will be dismissed from the CHURCH to a parent or designated adult. Parents are asked to come into the church at 5:45PM/7:45PM for a short prayer and announcements.

## Attendance

Students are expected to attend all classes from September through May. In the event of an absence, please call the Religious Education Center 708.388.4040 by 4PM. For the safety of your children, if we do not hear from you, we will be calling your home to verify the absence. Missed assignments need to be completed by the next class. Excessive absences will require a meeting with the Director of Religious Education.

## Alerts & Emergency Closings

Families will be notified via phone/text/email to the numbers provided at the time of registration of class dates and emergency closings through the Honeywell Instant Alert System. Please let us know if you have a change of phone number or email during the school year to make sure you do not miss these vital alerts.

# Parent Participation

Parents are the primary educators of their children. We welcome parents to participate in the religious education of their children by:

**...ATTENDING** weekend Mass with their children. Eucharist is the central focus of our faith.

**...JOINING** the children and catechists at the Tuesday closing prayer as part of the Tuesday evening formation. For special rites and celebrations, details will be sent home.

**...PARTICIPATING** in sacramental preparation as part of First Reconciliation, First Communion, and Confirmation preparation.

**...SUPPORTING** St. Christopher Parish financially through Sunday envelopes, various fundraisers, and activities.

**...ASSISTING** THE RELIGIOUS Education Program in a variety of ways. We are always in need of volunteers on class nights.

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## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/FORMATION...

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is the promise parents make at their child's baptism to aid them in their spiritual growth.

The Archdiocese of Chicago recommends children attend a Religious Education Program during grades 1-8. If a child misses a grade level, she/he will be required to make up the material taught in that grade. Parents will need to meet with the Director of Religious Education to agree on the best plan for the child. Celebration of a sacrament may be delayed until all work is completed.



## Conduct

Thank you for teaching your children right from wrong and respect for people and property. We anticipate that good behavior will be a part of Tuesday evening classes. In the event that a child's behavior is a disruption to the catechist and class, we will have the child in the RE Office and speak with him or her. If the student is unable to correct their behavior we will call a parent to come in for a conversation with us.

## Classrooms and Belongings

Catechists will provide children with supplies needed for class. Students are not allowed to remove any belongings from the school desks.

Children should come prepared to class with their Religious Ed Folder and Book.

Cell Phones must be shut off during class time. St. Christopher Parish is not liable for lost phones or other items brought to class.

## Behavior Contract

Parents and students will be required to review this handbook each year and sign a behavior contract stating they have read and understand the guidelines set for them by the St. Christopher Religious Education Staff.