

# Shrine of St. Padre Pio Catholic Education Program

## Registration

All children are to be registered for the Catholic Education Program (CEP) on one of the respective registration dates noted. Registration fees should be paid at the time of registration. Families who are unable to pay registration fees at this time are asked to speak to the Director of the Catholic Education Program.

## Communication

All communication pertaining to the Catholic Education Program (CEP) can be found by going to [www.shrineofpadrepio.org](http://www.shrineofpadrepio.org) and accessing the CEP link. The CEP link will serve as the formal communication tool for CEP. In addition, CEP news will be printed throughout the year in the form of letters, memos or bulletins to parents or guardians of children. Parents will at times receive written communication regarding parent meetings, special liturgies or activities at the Shrine. Please check with your child after classes.

## Attendance

Good attendance is essential for the faith formation of children. The value and role of faith in the life of children directly mirrors that of their parents. Parents are therefore asked by their word and example to place significant importance to the faith formation of their children. Regular class attendance is imperative to maintain interest, achievement, and sense of belonging.

Attendance records are especially significant for children entering a sacramental program. If a child should have 3 or more unexcused absences, it is understood that a problem exists. The child's entrance into, or continued preparation in sacramental preparation classes will have to be evaluated by the Director of the Catholic Education Program.

Children are expected to attend all classes and activities except in the case of illness or family emergency. Please call the CEP office when your child will be absent, at 497-6101.

## Lateness

Please do your best to have your child arrive on time. A child who arrives 10 minutes after classes begin will be considered late.

# **Shrine of St. Padre Pio Catholic Education Program**

## **Drop Off/Pick up**

All children are asked to be dropped off and picked up in front of the vestibule area of the church. Children can only be picked up by parent or guardian.

## **Discipline**

A child's behavior that detracts from the learning environment presents a concern for the program. Disruptive behavior affects the overall culture within the classroom and alters the learning process. A child exhibiting repetitive inappropriate behavior will be asked to go to the CEP office. A call will then be placed to parents requesting a meeting.

## **Safe Environment/Child Lures Program**

In response to the US Conference of Catholic Bishops Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People we offer training in abuse prevention. For catechists this requires a workshop on prevention and presenting the Child Lures or Yellow Dyno programs. This is in addition to the Criminal Background Check and viewing of the video on Sexual Misconduct. A refresher workshop must be taken every three years.

## **Parent Formation Classes**

CEP will offer Parent formation classes to assist parents in the faith and character formation of their children. These classes will vary in nature depending on a child's age. The goal is to help parents become a true domestic church where the life of faith can be fully witnessed and experienced.

## **Parent Responsibilities**

Parents please make it a priority to:

- attend mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation
- practice the prayer list ----certain prayers are to be memorized
- review material that is sent home from class
- celebrate the liturgical seasons at home—advent, lent, holy week, etc.
- participate in the life of the church through the various celebrations and parish activities

# **Shrine of St. Padre Pio Catholic Education Program**

## **Sacrament of First Reconciliation and First Communion**

The child must participate in a two-year program before the reception of the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist. The first year of studies begins in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. A Baptismal certificate must be on file with the church.

A child who is entering our program in the second year must provide documentation that the child had been enrolled in a formal religious formation program or catholic school. If a child lacks this preparation, an alternative plan for additional formation will be provided. The Pastor determines readiness for the sacrament.

The child must memorize the prayers assigned and be able to say them without prompting.

Parents are to take the child to mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation.

Parents are required to attend Parent Formation classes and retreats.

## **Sacrament of Confirmation**

Confirmation takes place in 10th grade and is a one year program. A Baptismal certificate must be on file with the church.

The child must have participated in the Catholic Education Program and successfully completed the 8<sup>th</sup> grade year at the Shrine or another religious formation program or catholic school.

The child must attend mass.

It is strongly recommended that the child take part in the High School Youth ministry and all church sponsored events.

The child must be willing to undertake all aspects of the Confirmation program to include 10 hours of community service and retreats.

Parents are required to attend Parent Formation classes.

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## **HOMESCHOOL**

The above mentioned requirements additionally pertain to children that are homeschooled.

## **RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR CHILDREN**

Children that have not received Baptism, First Reconciliation or First Holy Communion by the third grade are entered into a special class called RCIC, Rite of Christian Initiation for Children. The day and time of class will be determined at the beginning of the year.

## **CEP CONCERNS**

Parents are asked to discuss any concern with their child's catechist. In the event that the issue remains unresolved, parents are asked to direct their concern to the Director of the Catholic Education Program. The Pastor will address concerns after this process has been completed.