

Discipline

We acknowledge that all of us are made in the Divine Image and Likeness of God. Disruptive behavior and/or behavior that is disrespectful to the dignity of another person **will not be tolerated**. In addition, boys and girls are expected to dress appropriately and in accordance with the teachings of the Catholic Church. Please see more information on our website sttheresemontauk.com on the expectations of this faith formation program with regard to student behaviors/social transitioning.

Other Safety Concerns

Our volunteer catechists receive ongoing training in the Virtus program; training that is offered initially on site through the Diocesan Office for the Protection of Children and Young People and dedicated to promoting and ensuring the protection of all children through monthly training bulletins. Parent volunteers are also required to receive this training.

Canon law requires that each year, children in levels 1 through 8 enrolled in a faith formation program, unless a parent chooses to 'opt-out', participate in a child safety program with age-appropriate topics discussed with the children. The diocese has issued a program of short videos called the Thoughtful and Safe Life Lessons.

Inclement Weather/Emergency Closing

In cases of severe weather conditions, bi-monthly classes at the Parish Center will be cancelled. The cancellation notice will follow the Montauk Public School closings and can be found on **NEWS 12 Long Island** or <http://longisland.news12.com>.

General Information

Weekend Holy Mass Schedule: Saturday: 5pm, Spanish Mass 8pm (7pm in winter), Sunday: 8.30am & 10.30am Family Mass.

Daily Mass: Tuesday - Friday 8:30am.

Eucharistic Adoration: Tuesday-Friday 9-10am & second Tuesday of every month 2-7pm

Tuesday Night Lights: Every Tuesday 7-9pm

Confession: Tuesday-Friday 9-9:30am & Saturday 3:45-4:45pm.

Parent Handbook



Church of St. Therese of Lisieux
5:9 Formation
2023-2024

Rev. Liam McDonald
Pastor

Mrs. Louise Carman
Director of Religious Education/Faith Formation

WELCOME FAMILIES!

St. Therese of Lisieux Faith Formation Program 2023-2024

Parking

The Office of Risk Management of the Diocese of Rockville Centre has advised us to implement safety measures in front of the Church and the Parish Center. Specifically, do not double park and please do not engage in 'drive by' delivery or pick up.

Arrival & Dismissal Procedures

*Children in levels pre-k, kindergarten, 1 and 2 must be walked to their meeting area where parents will leave them with their assigned catechist.

*All children in levels pre-k through 6th must be picked up at dismissal at their catechist's meeting room. Levels 7 & 8 can be picked up in the main lobby of the Parish Center.

* If someone other than the parent or legal guardian is to pick up your child, the catechist or director must be notified before class.

Early Dismissal

Please inform your child's catechist or the director if you need to pick up your child prior to the end of the session. **The hall monitor will retrieve your child from his/her meeting room.**

Attendance and Lateness

Children are expected to attend meetings at the Parish Center on a bi-monthly basis according to the Faith Formation Calendar. Please notify the faith formation office either by phone or by email if your child will be absent due to illness or vacation.

Attendance at Mass is most important. Lack of attendance at Mass and at the meetings will be viewed as lack of interest. In such case and according to the discretion of the director, your child will be removed from our program.

Parent Meetings

Please make every effort to attend parent meetings when notified. If you are unable to attend, please inform the director.

Snacks

There is no snack at Sunday morning gatherings. On Mondays, after prayer however, we do begin each session with a snack. Snack will be provided. We ask that **if your child does have dietary restrictions and/or allergies, please be sure to provide a snack for him/her.**

Family Mass

Family mass is on Sundays at 10:30am. In lieu of weekly classes at the Parish Center, we will instead celebrate weekly Mass together as a faith community.

Please remember to have your child sign in before Mass begins. A catechist and/or the director will be in the church entrance to help with this. Please see all Mass times on the last page of this Handbook.

Sacramental Preparation

A two year preparation period is required to receive both the Sacrament of First Communion at level two and the Sacrament of Confirmation at the beginning of level 9, assuming your child is spiritually ready.

A minimum of twenty hours of service is also required for Confirmation during this same time period.

Custody Issues and Orders of Protection

The safety of your child is paramount. Any issues related to the custody of your child and orders of protection must be made known to the director at the time of registration, who will in turn inform the catechist. Where there is an order of protection/order of custody in effect, the parent or guardian must provide a list of names of those persons allowed to pick up the child. Anyone other than the parent/guardian picking up the child must present photo I.D. to the catechist. **Information must be updated by the family with any change in circumstance.**