

31 July 2017

Dear Parents,

Thank you for enrolling your child in our Sunday school program for the 2017-2018 school year!

Classes will begin August 20, and the new calendar will be available on the Cathedral website shortly. For your convenience, all forms and fees can be submitted online at www.charlestoncathedral.com, or mailed to me at the Cathedral parish office at 105 Queen St., or sent to this email: christian.formation@charlestoncathedral.com. Classes meet from 10:05 a.m.-11:05 a.m. on the 1st and 2nd floor of the Cathedral Center.

A new requirement this year for parents with children preparing for sacraments, grades 1st-2nd and 7th-8th, will be a parent "retreat" class. This class will meet on Sundays, 10:15-11:00am, in the lower church, beginning Sept. 17. If you have young, non-school age children, the nursery is open at that time.

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

God bless,

Karen McLaurin

Director of Religious Education

P: 724.8395

E: christian.formation@charlestoncathedral.com

SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN FORMATION POLICIES

All families participating in the Cathedral School of Christian Formation must be active, registered members of Cathedral parish. Classes are held on Sundays, 10:05a-11:05a, in the Cathedral parish center classrooms (1st and 2nd floor). 2017-18 classes begin on Sunday, August 20.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION POLICIES

In order to receive either First Holy Communion or Confirmation, children must attend, at the very minimum, TWO FULL YEARS of Christian Formation classes if they are not in our Catholic School system. **No more than three classes per year can be missed** during sacramental preparation. This policy is meant to ensure your child has the best sacramental formation possible.

First Reconciliation/First Communion

These two sacraments are celebrated in the 2nd grade. Children preparing for them must have attended a prior year of formation, either here or at another parish (need letter from previous parish's Direction of Religious Education). If you have a child beyond the 2nd grade who would like to receive first communion and reconciliation, please contact the Director of Religious Education.

Students are expected to attend class regularly (**no more than 3 absences**), Sunday Mass, and a workshop and rehearsal scheduled in the spring. Parents are required to attend any scheduled parent meetings as well as a weekly "retreat" class on Sundays, 10:15a-11:00a in the lower church. 2017 parent retreat class begins on Sunday, Sep. 17

Parents must fill out a first communion registration form and submit it with their child's baptismal certificate. First Holy Communion will be on Sunday, April 22, 2018, 11:15 am Mass.

Confirmation

Confirmation at the Cathedral typically takes place in 8th grade.

- 1) Parents need to fill out and sign a confirmation registration and permission form, and submit it with a copy of their child's baptismal certificate.
- 2) Parents are required to attend any scheduled parent meetings, as well as a parent "retreat" class, held on Sundays, 10:15a-11:00a in the lower church (refer to calendar for schedule). 2017 parent retreat classes begin on Sunday, Sept. 17.
- 3) Candidates will be required to attend weekly classes (**no more than 3 absences**). If you know beforehand this is going to be a problem, please contact the Director of Religious Education before registering.
- 4) Candidates will be required to show proof of weekly Mass attendance. Mass booklets will be given to each candidate to record their Mass attendance.

5) Candidates will be required to participate in either a class service project or perform 10 hours of service prior to confirmation (at least half must be church related).

6) Candidates must choose a sponsor, age 16 years or older, who is a confirmed Catholic and an active member of a Catholic parish (active status means they attend Mass weekly and contribute to the financial needs of the parish). Sponsors must obtain and submit to the Cathedral a certificate from their home parish verifying that they are a member in good standing.

