

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
FOR PARENTS OF STUDENTS IN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CATECHESIS
ST. ROSE OF LIMA CHURCH, ALTOONA, PA.

Parents are the primary educators of their children in matters of faith, prayer, and spiritual development. The Pastor and Staff of St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church are eager to assist all parents with this obligation. We therefore expect all parents with children of school age to reflect on this obligation and commit themselves to the following:

I/We understand that it is my/our duty to see that my/our child(ren):

1. Attend and participate in Masses on all Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation
2. Receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation (confession) frequently
3. Participate in the spiritual retreats as provided for the different grades
4. Participate in the occasional activities of the program of Religious Education
5. Arrive on time for all classes, retreats, etc. and complete all assignments
6. Provide a written excuse to the next scheduled class for any missed classes along with any missing assignments

I/We will encourage my/our children to become involved in parish ministries such as acolyte (altar server), children's choir, usher, and gift bearer. I/We will – when able – volunteer for the Religious Education Program as a catechist (teacher), aide, room parent or retreat chaperone.

I/We realize the expectation to attend continue is grow in my/our understanding of the Catholic faith. Our parish provides classes for and information about adult faith enrichment.

If a child fails to carry out the above responsibilities, or if a discipline problem interferes with classroom conduct, I/we understand that a meeting of the parent, child and Pastor may be necessary.

I/We have read the religious education guidelines for St. Rose of Lima Parish. I/We understand I/we have the primary responsibility for the faith formation of the child(ren) named below. I/We also understand that I/we can contact the Director of Sunday School Catechesis, Bernice Shoenfelt, (942-5659), max@atlanticbb.net, and/or my/our child's/children's' catechist/s if questions or concerns arise about the religious education program or a sacramental process.

Name(s) of Parent or guardian _____	Date _____
Name of student(s) in program _____	Grade(s) _____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Keep the above portion of this memorandum for your 2009-2010 records. Cut on the above dotted line. Return only the lower portion of this page to the teacher of your oldest child.

ROSE OF LIMA SUNDAY CATECHESIS PROGRAM
Bernice Shoenfelt, Director of Sunday School Catechesis 2009-2010

We owe a debt of gratitude to our catechists. These faith-filled people are committed to giving your child(ren) the best possible religious instruction. They are assisting you in your responsibility to educate your child/children in the ways of faith. Our catechists this year are as follows:

Phone Listing for Teachers, Aides & Substitutes		
CROSS	Joe/Vickie Pacovsky	940-8665
Pre-Kindergarten	Caryn Fraundorfer	940-2002
Pre-Kindergarten	Megan Reilly	949-4047
Kindergarten	Jennifer Crum	946-5249
Kindergarten HS Student Aide	Kathleen Lersch	949-2921
1 st Grade	Therese Link	695-6306
2 nd Grade	Lori Stephens	696-7959
3 rd Grade	Darlene Crum	946-5249
4 th Grade	Doug Stephens	696-7959
5 th Grade	Theresa Funtal	942-3708
6 th Grade	Ron Skupien-1 st Semester/Kathy Spayd-2 nd Semester	942-0814-Ron-943-3783-Kathy
7 th Grade	Carole Housum	695-7249
8 th Grade	Richard Tully	944-2853
9 th Grade	Richard Smith	Ramman619@atlanticbb.net
10 th Grade	John Brown	944-3436
11 th Grade	Father Crookston	944-8509
Sub	Debbie Fraundorfer	943-5394
Sub	Susan Kuhn	941-5846
Sub	Zed Geis	942-6554
Sub	Dee Cree	942-3958
4 th Grade Aide	Karen Mc Graw	946-3438
Sub	Susan Pater	941-8263
Sub	Michele Hallinan	940-0240
Sub for Grade 1 & 2	Mary Engelman	943-3796
Sub for Grade 1, 2, & 3	Karen Smith	943-8954
Sub for Grades K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5,	Colette Gormish	886-5865
Sub for Grade 4, 5, & 6	Ron Skupien	942-0814
Sub for Grade 9	Jerry Koehle	Gkoehle007@yahoo.com
Sub for Grade 9	Chuck Wolf	942-1398
2 nd Grade Aide	Sally Lockard	944-2785
3 rd Grade Aide	Gigi Campbell	946-5015
5 th Grade Aide	Barry Noel	942-3708
6 TH Grade Aide	Karen Watt	941-3004
Office Manager	Yvonne Gibson	943-6985
Sub "office"	Beverly Elder	944-3947
Retreat Leader	Cathy Damiano	943-7242 Cell 381-4352
Catechetical Leader	Bernice Shoefelt	Home 942-5659 Work 944-8509

Note: We encourage our parents to participate in our program. "Room Parents" assist catechists. We invite all parents to become a "Room Parent." Please contact Bernice Shoefelt at 942-5659 or email at max@atlanticbb.net if you are interested

Tuition

Tuition for the first and second child of any family is \$10 per child. There is no charge for additional children so that the total religious education cost for any family is a maximum of \$20. If you have special financial consideration and find the tuition burdensome, please contact Father Crookston at 944-8509 or Bernice Shoefeldt at 942-5659. Either will honor the confidentiality of your circumstances. We have a late fee of \$5.00 per family for those who register following the third Monday of August. Timely registration assists us in ordering books and preparing class rosters and catechetical materials.

Textbooks

Students in grades K through 8 will receive a textbook for their use at the beginning of the year. At the end of the year, this textbook must be returned in the same condition in which it was issued. If a student damages or loses a textbook, it will be necessary for him or her to pay a replacement fee. In addition, students in kindergarten as well as grades 9 and 11 will receive additional workbooks and worksheets.

Schedule

Please review the schedule for this year attached to this document. All students receive approximately thirty hours of instructions. In addition, all are expected to be faithful in their attendance at liturgies on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation.

- Grades K through 9 will meet Sunday mornings from 9:15-10:15. Students should be in their classrooms by 9:10 am.
- Grades 10 and 11 will meet Sunday evening each week, from 6:30-8:00 from September through March. Students should be in their classrooms by 6:25 pm. Grade 10 continues each week to Palm Sunday.
- Retreats for each grade are on the attached schedule. The schedule also states whether the retreat requires parents' participation.

Absenteeism and Tardiness

When a student has more than two unexcused absences, he or she is in danger of repeating the same grade level in the following academic year. If your child/ren does miss a class, it is therefore important that you send a note of explanation on the following week. In addition, frequent tardiness represents a serious matter in terms of religious education classes. If a child is tardy, he or she must present a note of explanation to his or her teacher at the next religious education class. Reception of the sacraments of Reconciliation, First Eucharist (First Holy Communion), and Confirmation will be delayed if the student does not fulfill class attendance requirement.

Parental Role in Religious Education

To help the members of the Religious Education Apostolate who give so abundantly of their time and talent, each parent should do the following:

- Assure the regular attendance of his or her child/ren at religious education classes.
- Show his/her active interest in the progress and achievements of the child/children.
- Give proper attention to weekly homework.
- Provide his or her family with a good spiritual example at home. This example should include serious commitment to weekend Masses, regular Reconciliation, and liturgical prayers.
- Continue the formation of own faith through spiritual reading, personal study, and participation in adult faith enrichment classes.

Sacramental Life

During the year, St. Rose of Lima Parish will offer opportunities for students in the Religious Education Program to participate in the sacramental life of the Church. These opportunities include the following:

- The second Sunday of each month will be Religious Education Sunday, except the month of April this year. On this day, students from various classes will fulfill the ministerial roles at the 8:15 AM Sunday Mass.

Children will be asking for the different ministries two weeks ahead of time. Therefore, they can practice the week before, during class time.

They minister.

- Twice during the year the students will have the opportunity to avail themselves of the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
- Students are encouraged to become part of the liturgical ministry to the parish. Opportunities exist for altar servers, children's choir, cantors, and, after Confirmation, for Eucharistic ministers and lectors.

FIRST RECONCILIATION AND FIRST EUCHARIST

REQUIREMENTS AND IMPORTANT DATES FOR FIRST EUCHARIST

Those who wish to make their first Communion in the second grade must meet the following requirements:

- 1) Faithful attendance at religious education or Catholic school religion classes for two (2) years
- 2) Participate in ALL retreat experiences
- 3) Faithful attendance at weekly Mass
- 4) Attendance at both Eucharist rehearsals

This schedule applies to both public school and Catholic school students and their parents.

Parent Meetings

All parents of First Penance/Eucharist students need to attend the meetings for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist. These meetings are on December 2, 2009 and March 31, 2010 respectively. Time for meetings is 6:30 – 7:30 PM in the parish social hall.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR FIRST RECONCILIATION AND FIRST EUCHARIST DURING GRADE 2 SCHOOL YEAR

DECEMBER 2, 2009 6:30 – 7:30 PM	Parent Meeting Topic: First Reconciliation	Parents only (suggested) Saint Rose Social Hall
DECEMBER 21, 2009 6:30 — 8:00 PM	First Reconciliation	Parents, Students, Family Members, and Godparents Saint Rose Church
March 31, 2010 6:30 — 7:30 PM	Parents Meeting Topic: First Eucharist	Parents only (suggested) Saint Rose Social Hall
April 17, 2010 9:00 – 10:30	Second Grade Retreat	Students Only
April 23, 2010 4:15 - 5:30 PM	First Practice for First Eucharist	Parents and Students Saint Rose Church
April 30, 2010 4:15 — 5:30 PM	Second Practice for First Eucharist	Parents & Students Saint Rose Church
MAY 2, 2010 12:00 — 2:00 PM	First Eucharist Mass	Parents, Students, Family Members, and Godparents Saint Rose Church
MAY 9, 2010 8:15 AM Mass	May Crowning Reception follows	Parents, Students, and Family Members Saint Rose Church and Social Hall

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation Requirements

Candidates for Confirmation, normally celebrated in the junior year of high school, must meet the following requirements.

- 1) Faithful attendance at religious education or Catholic school religion classes for grades nine (9), ten (10) & eleven (11)
- 2) Faithful attendance at weekly Mass
- 3) Participate in ALL retreat experiences
- 4) Complete service hours in the community and/or church
- 5) Meeting with your sponsor
- 6) Attendance at Confirmation Rehearsal and Confirmation liturgy

This schedule applies to for all Confirmation candidates, their parents and sponsors. (AAHS, HAHS, BAHS, and BGHS.)

Parent Meeting

All Parents of Confirmation Candidates in grades 9, 10 & 11 must attend this meeting for Confirmation. This meeting is Sunday, August 30, 2009 from 9:30 until 10:00 AM in our parish social hall. This meeting will give us the opportunity to review all Confirmation requirements and to deal with questions about the Confirmation process. It is vital that parents of students in the public schools as well as Bishop Guilfoyle High School attend this meeting.

Retreats

Confirmation candidates must attend the entire scheduled time in order to fulfill the retreat requirements. Should a candidate realize that he/she has another commitment on the retreat date or that illness prevents the candidate from attending, the candidate contacts Fr. Crookston or Mrs. Shoenfelt to learn of other retreats in the diocese.

Be on time – present at least ten minutes before the announce start time – for all Retreats, Rites and Sacraments

IMPORTANT DATES FOR CONFIRMATION DURING THIS SCHOOL YEAR

IMPORTANT DATE FOR FRESHMEN:

Retreat and Rite

September 13, 2009

5:00 — 8:00 PM

7:45

Baptism Retreat and

The Rite of Blessing

Confirmation Candidates-Music Room St. Rose

Saint Rose Social Hall

Parents attend the Rite of Blessing with Confirmation Candidates

IMPORTANT DATES FOR SOPHOMORES:

Retreat

November 15, 2009

4:30 — 8:30 PM

Gifts of the Spirit &

Parables Retreat

Confirmation Candidates

Music Room

Rite

November 22, 2009

8:15 Mass

Rite of Commitment

Parents and Confirmation Candidates

Saint Rose Church

IMPORTANT DATES FOR JUNIORS:

Retreat October 3, 2009 8:00AM — 7:30PM	Christian Story	Confirmation Candidate Saint Rose of Lima Church. This includes Mass at 5:30, with dinner following. Mass and dinner includes Parents/Sponsors and Confirmation Candidates St. Rose Social Hall
Rite of Sending MARCH 21, 2010 8:15 AM Mass Immediately after Mass	Rite of Sending Group Photograph & Reception	Parents/Sponsors and Confirmation Candidates Saint Rose Church Saint Rose Social Hall
April 6, 2010 6:15 — 7:15 PM	Confirmation Rehearsal	Parents/Sponsors and Confirmation Candidates Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament
April 7, 2010 6:15 — 9:00 PM	Mass of Confirmation	Parents, Student & Sponsor Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament