

Brief overview of policies for K - 5 Catechesis for meeting during COVID-19

Obviously, K - 5 catechesis will look different this year. Here is a brief synopsis of our plan to meet while also cognizant of the health concerns of our current situation.

- Class sizes will be reduced to no more than 16 kids in each meeting group. The "16" will be split even further into 2 groups of 8 in separate meeting rooms.
- Children will sit 6 feet apart.
- Meeting groups will combine Kinder and 1st and 3rd-4th-5th. This was a common practice last year anyway, and even with the cap on the class size, we are confident we can accommodate everyone.
- In their prospective rooms, eight children will learn the core lesson of the month, while the other eight will do a craft and the saint of the day. Then, they will switch.
- For those in sacramental prep, class size will be reduced to no more than 15 kids per group. Parents and children will start the session together (families will be spaced 6 feet apart), then children will move upstairs for the other half of the lesson (spaced 6 feet apart).
- We will meet upstairs in the church for closing prayer as always.
- Parents will meet as before. The partition wall for St Mary's will be taken down, giving us more room for adequate spacing.
- A sign up for the scheduled meeting dates will be sent out. Sign up will be required so we do not exceed the class size.
- Social distancing requires ministry groups to utilize more of the downstairs area, making it impossible for multiple ministries to meet simultaneously. Therefore, Family Catechesis will be moving to Sunday sessions only. You will come with your child once a month. Meeting times will be 1:30 - 3:00pm and 4pm - 5:30pm.
- The longer meeting time is to allow time for the groups to switch. There will not be an increase in the amount of content. If we finish sooner than expected, then we will end the session.
- Face coverings: Whenever a person is moving (to and from rooms, up to the church, into and exiting the building) a mask is required. When seated 6 feet apart and stationary, masks may be pulled down for breaks if desired. Teachers will need to wear a face covering.
- Hand sanitizer will be available in all classrooms and is already available on the wall when you enter the church.
- All areas will be cleaned after everyone leaves.
- At this time, I am not able to offer our babysitting service.