



**Resurrection R.C. Church
Faith Formation Office
2331 Gerritsen Avenue
Brooklyn, New York 11229
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Website: www.resurrection-brooklyn.org

Reverend William A. With, Pastor Reverend Michael C. Gribbon, Parochial Vicar

Mrs. Margaret Foti, Director Deacon John Hardy

FAITH FORMATION HANDBOOK

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Catechesis, or Faith Formation, is the process of promoting knowledge of faith, liturgical education, moral formation, initiation and education in community life. It is a life-long process of conversion, formation and education. Through word, worship, service and community it seeks to lead all God's people to an ever-deepening relationship with God who reveals Himself in Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit.

The goal of Faith Formation is to assist parents in their responsibility of fulfilling the promise made at Baptism. You promised God that you would do all that was possible to bring your child up in the Catholic faith.

Parents teach by the way they live and practice their Catholic Christian Faith. The first steps of prayer, the development of moral conscience and the formation of Christian love are first taught in the family. These are all a reflection of the love of God.

PROCEDURES

1. **REGISTRATION IN THE PARISH** – Each family must be registered in the parish and should be using church envelopes. The offering in the envelope (or online giving - givecentral.org) is an offering between God and the individual. The offering is one's response to the recognition of God's blessings.
2. **MASS ATTENDANCE** – Parents are prime educators of their children and have the responsibility to participate fully in the Sunday liturgy as a family. Sacraments cannot be denied but may be delayed due to lack of participation in the life of the Church.
3. **CLASS ATTENDANCE** – Your child must attend class once a week (either in church or via zoom).
4. **ABSENCES** – Consecutive absences and failure to notify the Faith Formation office can result in dismissal. A doctor's note will be required upon return to class. **5 or more absences may lead to detainment.** IF YOUR CHILD HAS A FEVER, DO NOT SEND THEM TO CLASS. Use your judgment as far as online sessions are concerned.
5. **SAFE ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM (CHILD LURES)** – Every year we are **mandated** to implement this program which is a safety program for all students. The program addresses inappropriate touching,

stranger danger, bullying, internet safety, respecting our bodies and that of others. The 1st graders will receive a booklet "My Body Belongs to Me" which is presented on their level.

6. **FAMILY LIFE BOOK** – Mandated by the Diocese – Discusses God's Gift of Family, Self, Life, Love & Community. Provides a moral catechesis for children and places human sexuality within the context of Christian moral living for grades 5-7.
7. **SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS** – We offer religious education classes to grades 1 through 7. Our 1st grade children prepare for the Sacrament of Penance and First Holy Communion which occurs in 2nd grade. This is a two-year program no matter what grade/age your child enters. We expect to have your children continue their classes from 3rd to 7th grade. The Sacrament of Confirmation occurs in 8th grade. Religious Education classes are completed at that time, but the children are still expected to attend Mass and volunteer to be connected fully in the Parish Life.
8. **HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS** – We are limited to time in presenting the lessons to your children. Homework reinforces the lesson taught. We need your support in making sure that your child is doing the necessary study/homework. Tests or quizzes may be given as well.
9. **BOOKS** – Children must be prepared each week with religion books, homework assignments, pencils, etc. Failure to come prepared will be reflected on the report card. Books that are lost or missing must be replaced through the Faith Formation Office and you will be responsible for the additional fee.
10. **REGISTRATION FEES** – Early Bird fees (before 5/20) are \$125 for one child, \$135 for 2 and \$150 for 3 or more children. Late registration fees (after 5/20) are \$175 for one child, \$185 for 2 and \$200 for 3 or more children. **Fees are due upon Registration.** Every child needs to be re-registered each year. We need to secure a seat in your child's grade and order books for your child several months before classes begin, so please be aware of deadlines.
11. **DISCIPLINE** – In the event any child presents with a significant disciplinary or behavioral problem, the parent will be notified, and if warranted the child could be dismissed from the program. PLEASE ALERT US BEFOREHAND IF YOUR CHILD HAS ANY SPECIAL NEEDS.
12. **PUNCTUALITY.** Each student must be on time for classes, whether in person or on Zoom.
13. **PARKING** -- PLEASE DO NOT DOUBLE PARK IN FRONT OF THE SCHOOL. WE HAVE A LARGE PARKING LOT ON WHITNEY AVENUE. YOUR CHILDREN'S SAFETY IS OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE TO US.
14. **BUILDING POLICY** – Only teachers and staff members are allowed into our building. This is for the safety of your children. If you have any concerns, please contact Mrs. Foti.
15. **HOME INFORMATION** – Please notify the office if there are any changes in your address, telephone numbers, email address, emergency contacts, etc.
16. **REPORT CARDS** – Distribution will be twice a year.
17. **MEETINGS** -- All meetings are mandatory. Please notify the office of your absence especially concerning SACRAMENTAL CLASSES.
18. **OUR TEACHERS** – Resurrection Faith Formation depends 100% on the VOLUNTEER gift of its teachers. All teachers are trained by our Diocese. Resurrection is blessed by the love of Jesus and their willingness to be involved in bringing the good news of God's love to His people, especially the children. Our teachers ARE NOT PAID; they willingly give of their time and knowledge and love. They are willing to be part of a program to help YOU in the religious formation of your children. Together, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we will continue to accept and fulfill to the best of our ability the call to minister to the children of Resurrection Parish. Please contact Mrs. Foti if you have any questions or comments regarding any of our teachers.
19. **OFFICE HOURS**-- Our office hours are Monday 9:00 a.m. – 12 NOON and 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Tuesday from 9:00 a.m. to 12 NOON and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Wednesday 9:00 a.m. – 12 NOON and 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 12 NOON and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. THERE ARE NO FRIDAY OFFICE HOURS.

20. **MASS SCHEDULE** – Mass Attendance is vital to Religious Education and should be a priority for your family. It strengthens our relationship with our clergy, faith community and enhances our family life. Our Mass Schedule is as follows: Saturday 5:00 p.m. Mass; Sunday 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Confessions are Saturdays 4:00 to 4:30 p.m. in the Church Vestibule Crying Room or call the Rectory for an appointment. Rectory number is 718-743-7234.

Blessed are you, God our Father, Maker of the universe.

You have sent Jesus to be our brother and to save us in Your love.

Bless us as we begin this year and help us in all we do for you.

Let your Holy Spirit give us light and lead us to You

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

I have read this Handbook and agree to these conditions. If I have any problems or concerns, I am to convey them directly to Mrs. Margaret Foti, Director of Religious Education at Resurrection Parish.

_____ **Student Name**

_____ **Parent's Signature**