

Establishing St. John the Evangelist as Your Home Parish

Christianity is not a private act. By its nature, living as a Christian means being in community with the people of God. “Registering” with a parish expresses your public commitment to be an active part of a particular Christian community: worshiping with that community; serving others with that community; and growing in faith and charity with that community.

Religious Education classes are provided by each parish to help teach the children of the parish what the Catholic faith means. They are also meant to provide the children with a concrete experience of that faith community. In the classes the children pray together, learn together, laugh together, serve together, worship together, and share things common to that faith community.

Because St. John’s Religious Education classes are provided using St. John’s limited resources (financial resources, human resources, space resources, volunteer resources), the classes are limited to the registered members of St. John’s parish community. Our classes are not meant to be a more convenient or cheaper substitute for religious education classes in your own parish community.

In order to register children for Religious Education classes in St. John’s parish, we offer the following criteria:

- You must be registered in our Parish (St. John the Evangelist).
- We recognize that many parishioners travel during the summer months and are out of town some weekends so are unable to celebrate Mass every weekend here at St. John’s. However, you are expected to celebrate Mass at St. John’s during the time that you are in town.
- On Sundays when you do not participate in the Mass at St. John’s, it is your responsibility to participate in the Mass at another parish.
- Your participation at Mass at St. John’s must be verifiable. Each registered family is provided with parish envelopes to use to verify your attendance. If you contribute on a monthly, quarterly or annual basis, or if you prefer to donate anonymously, we ask you to use the empty envelope to verify your attendance. All envelopes are recorded and verify your regular presence at Mass. This record provides the pastor with the founded hope that you are a practicing Catholic, which is necessary if you should want to baptize a child, be a godparent, or act as sponsor for Confirmation.
- Your commitment to the parish should reflect a **sincere effort** to comply with God’s invitation to materially support the church. God does not call us all to be equal in the quantity of how much we give, but rather He calls us to be equal in the sacrifice we make.
- If you do not live within the pastoral boundaries of our parish and would like to register with St. John’s, you should write a letter to the pastor indicating where you live, what parish you currently belong to, why you want to become a member of St. John’s, and a statement of your firm commitment to actively worship and participate in St. John’s community.