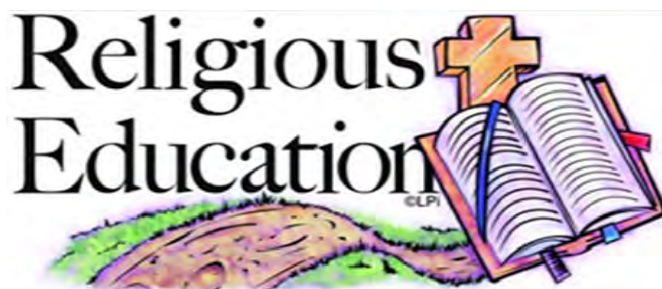


ST. PAUL ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



***231 SECOND ST.
CLIFTON, NJ 07011***



2023-2024

CONFIRMATION (HIGH SCHOOL)

EVERY SUNDAY—12:00PM TO 1:30PM



***MOTHER CABRINI CENTER
97 WASHINGTON AVE.***

CLIFTON, NEW JERSEY 07011

PHONE: 973-340-1300, EXT. 125 OR 126

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation is a Sacrament, a special sign which celebrates life as a Catholic Christian. The sign of Confirmation is unique because, as a sacrament, it seals you with the power of the Holy Spirit, which enables you to say "Yes" to the Christian life, to a personal relationship with Jesus, and helps you to share your gifts with the Church.

Confirmation preparation is a parish based process which proceeds over two (2) full years. It builds on the consistent catechesis received from grades 1 through 8.

The goals of the Confirmation process are that all confirmandi: (a) Be empowered to make a commitment to the person of Jesus Christ, the Catholic Church and a Catholic Christian way of life; and (b) Be able to understand, appreciate, and articulate the basic doctrines of the Catholic faith and the principles of personal and social morality

At the present time, it is recommended that the celebration of Confirmation be in the years of high school freshman, sophomore and junior.



ADMISSION

Upon enrollment, a copy of each child's Birth Certificate, current Baptismal Certificate, and First Eucharist Certificate must accompany the registration form. Those transferring from another Religious Education Program must include a letter from that parish indicating the years of previous instruction received.

Issues of Custody

Parents must inform the CRE if there are any custodial issues. You need to provide a copy of any pertinent court documents.

REGISTRATION AND PLACEMENT

Registration and re-registration occurs in the summer of each year. Forms can be found in the Church Vestibule and obtained from the Parish Office. All children are assigned to a class by the CRE. Catechists may not accept a child into class without authorization from the CRE.

If your child has any special needs such as allergies or learning disabilities, please advise the CRE of all necessary information. Regarding medical issues, no medication of any kind may be given to a child by a catechist.

If program modifications are necessary, parents should discuss these with the CRE. Any modification will follow diocesan guidelines.

Home Study

In special circumstances, such as medical or special education needs, parents may request to teach their own child/children. According to diocesan guidelines, a letter explaining the reasons for the request should accompany the registration form. Parents will attend meetings during the year.



REGISTRATION DONATIONS

These donations are used for the books, supplies, speakers, and office needs of the program. Special Sacramental donations may be required in Sacramental classes. Families experiencing financial hardship can contact the CRE concerning necessary modifications.

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES AND ARRIVAL / DISMISSAL POLICIES

Confirmation Classes are held every Sunday following the 11:00am Mass at St. Paul R.C. Church from 12:00pm to 1:30pm at the Mother Cabrini Center, 97 Washington St., Clifton, NJ 07011.

If someone other than a parent/guardian is picking up their child/children, or if the child is permitted to walk home alone, a written authorization must be given to the catechist and the CRE. No student is permitted to leave the building early without a parent. A written note should be given to the catechist and CRE in advance and the parent must sign the student out with the teacher.

ATTENDANCE

Consistent attendance at class demonstrates to your child the importance of learning about God and developing a Christian way of living. Therefore, all students are expected to attend scheduled classes unless prevented by illness.

A copy of the calendar will be provided at the Parent/Student Orientation Meeting and it is also available at www.stpaulcnj.org.

Please call the Office if your child will be absent. It will be the responsibility of the student and the parent/guardian to make up the work missed. More than three (3) absences during the school year are considered serious. Excessive absences may prevent a student from advancing to the next grade, or from receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this year. Please ensure that your child arrives on time. Every three (3) late arrivals will equal one absence.

Sunday Mass attendance is not only a precept of the Catholic Church, it is also a loving response to Jesus' request at the Last Supper. Attend weekly Mass (Saturday Evening or Sunday) with your child at St. Paul R.C. Church. The Confirmation Mass Book located in the Vestibule of the Church must be signed by each Confirmation Student when attending Sunday Mass.

Cancellation of Classes

Families will be notified of any cancellation by E-mail and/or phone call.

STUDENT CONDUCT AND RESPONSIBILITY

As a Catholic community we foster Christian principles of respect and courtesy toward all adults and children. It is expected that all students will obey all program procedures and the rules set forth by their catechist. Parents will be notified of any inappropriate language or behavior. Persistent problems will be addressed at a meeting of parent, child, Deacon or Pastor, and CRE.

For their own safety, students will follow arrival and dismissal procedures.

All students are required to bring their textbook and a pen/pencil to class each week. If a book is lost, a new one must be purchased.

Due to the alarming number of food allergies, students may not bring food or drink to class. This includes eating candy or chewing gum.

Dress Code

Appropriate clothing for the season and place of instruction (school or Church building) should be worn.

Electronic Devices

Electronic devices such as tablets should not be brought to class. Cell phones may be brought to class, but must be turned off when class is in session.

CONFIRMATION REQUIREMENTS

Mass and Class Participation:

Confirmation Candidates are to attend weekly Sunday Mass at 11:00am in St. Paul R.C. Church followed by class from 12:00pm to 1:30pm at the Parish Hall. **No more than three (3) absences will be allowed during the year.**

Confirmation Patron Saint:

Second Year candidates are required to research the life of a Saint and write a two (2) page report (typed) in their own words and not plagiarized. The Saint name will become the CONFIRMATION name under which the student will be confirmed. All 2nd Year candidates must present their report by March 24, 2024

Confirmation Sponsor:

The Sponsor needs to be a practicing Catholic and 16 years old or older. The Sponsor cannot be the student's parent or step-parent. The sponsor is required to and must submit a **"Sponsor Certificate Form"** which is a recommendation from their parish priest stating they have been Baptized, Confirmed and attend Mass each week. All 2nd Year Candidates must hand in their **Sponsor Certificate by March 24, 2024.**

Confirmation Service Hours:

To be a Catholic Christian, we need to be more than people who participate in Mass on Sunday. We must be people of action, people of service. Preparing for Confirmation is a process of becoming a fully committed member of the Christian community, sensitive to how the Holy Spirit is moving in one's life. The Holy Spirit moves us to make wise and fair decisions, moves us to pray, and to connect with others and build community. The Holy Spirit also stirs us to serve one another and to free people from injustice as Jesus did. Service is a way of life for committed Christians.

Confirmation Candidates are to complete a total of 45 Service Hours at St. Paul R.C. Church. Hours are completed as follows: 20 hours during their 1st year and 25 hours during their 2nd year.

Personal Project Service Forms are due on April 7, 2024. Some examples include, but are not limited to:

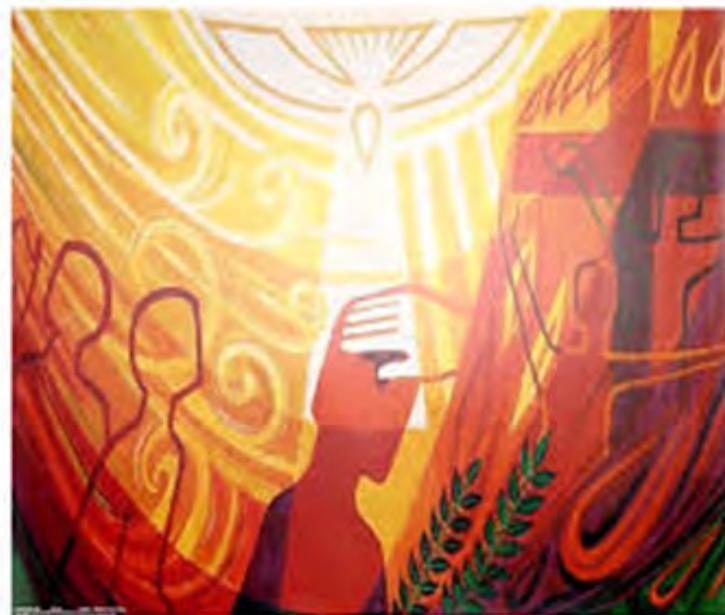
Altar Servers
CCD Aide
Living Stations of the Cross during Holy Week (Mandatory)
Lectors
Christmas Concert
Family Choir

Confirmation Spiritual Retreat

Candidates are required to attend a Spiritual Retreat during their 2nd year of Sacramental preparation often held in January from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. The date is scheduled for Saturday, January 27, 2024.

Letter to the Pastor

All 2nd year candidates are required to write a letter to the Pastor stating their intention of being confirmed and why they think they are ready to be confirmed. The type letter is due by March 24, 2024.



MISCELLANEOUS

No Food Policy

Parents — your child should not come to class hungry. As previously indicated, students may not bring food or drink to class. This includes eating candy or chewing gum.

Lost and Found

In order to have misplaced or lost items returned, all items that are brought into class including all clothing and especially books should be labeled. “Lost and found” will be maintained in the Mother Cabrini Center.

Materials to be distributed

No unauthorized materials may be distributed to students. All disseminated material must be pre-approved by the CRE.

Policy conflict

Where any program policy and/or procedures may conflict with Diocesan policy and/or procedure, Diocesan policy shall be considered first.

Family Covenant/Commitment

In order to form a cooperative union, dedicated to the formation of strong religious values, we are requesting that each family in our program enter into a formal Covenant/Commitment acknowledging the important role that we all play in the religious education and formation of our children.

The program acknowledges parents as the primary teachers of their children and agrees to support and nourish the family to the best of our ability. We will function in ways that encourage and respect the right of all students to learn more about their Church, faith and their personal relationship with God.

CATECHISTS

We are very blessed to have the involvement of so many dedicated parishioners who volunteer to be catechists. Their service to our program is deeply appreciated, and we encourage parents to meet their child's catechist at the start of the school year.

Catechists: volunteer layperson, teachers and substitute teachers who commit themselves, their time, and energy to prepare and learn what they need to hand on the faith to our young people.

Responsibilities of a Catechist

- Acquaints herself/himself with the parents of those entrusted to her/him and communicates with them on the conduct and progress of their child.
- Prepares and executes weekly lessons and prayer.
- Maintains a safe environment for all children (Virtus training).
- Attends meetings and strives through personal ready and study to be well-equipped to perform the sacred duty of a catechist.

St. Paul R.C. Church recognizes the important role catechists have in helping parents pass on the Catholic Faith to their children. Catechists need ongoing formation in Theology, Methodology, and Spirituality to deepen their own faith life. That enables them to help children recognize and appreciate the many ways God is and has always been present and active in our world and in our personal lives.



St. Paul R.C. church

2023-2024 IMPORTANT DATES

First Day of Class

Sunday, September 17, 2023

Feast of St. Francis and Outdoor Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 1, 2023, 4pm at church

All Saints Day Mass (celebrated by lower-level kids)

Sunday, October 29th, 2023, Children's Saint Parade @ 11:00am Mass

All Saints Day

Wednesday, November 1, 2023, Mass Service at 8am, 5pm, and 7pm

All Souls Day

Thursday, November 2, 2023, Mass Service at 8am, 5pm and 7pm

Thanksgiving Day Mass

Thursday, November 23rd, 2023, Mass Service at 8am and 7pm

Mass of Nations

Sunday, November 26th, 2023, at 11:00am

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Friday, December 8th, 2023; Mass Service at 8am, 5pm, 7pm

Advent Penance Service

Monday, December 11, 2023, at 7pm at church

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass

Tuesday, December 12, 2023, Mass Service at 8am, 7pm (mañanitas at 5am)

Christmas Concert

Sunday, December 17, 2023, at 5:30 pm at church

Nine Day Christmas Novena/Simbang Gabi

Beginning Friday, December 15, 2023, Mass Service at 7:00 pm

Christmas Eve Masses

Sunday, December 24, 2023, Mass Service 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00 pm

Spanish

Christmas Day Masses

Monday, December 25, 2023, Mass Service 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00 pm

Spanish

Feast of the Holy Family Masses

Sunday, December 31, 2023, All Masses

New Year's Eve Party, Parish Hall (to be determined)

Solemnity of Mary Mother of God

Monday, January 1, 2024, All Masses

The Epiphany of the Lord/Three Kings

Sunday, January 7, 2024, All Masses

The Baptism of the Lord

Monday, January 8, 2024, 8 AM Mass

Conversion of St. Paul Feast Day Masses

Thursday, January 25, 2024, 8 AM, 7 PM Mass

The Presentation of the Lord

Friday, February 2, 2024, 8AM Mass

Feast of St. Blaise/Blessing of the Throats
 Saturday, February 3, 2024, and Sunday, February 4, 2024, All Masses
 Ash Wednesday Services and Masses
 Wednesday, February 14, 2024, 8 AM Mass, 12:00 pm Liturgy, 3:00 pm Liturgy,
 5:00 pm Mass
 7:00 pm Mass
 Palm Sunday
 Saturday, March 23, 2024, 5PM Mass; Sunday, March 24, 2024, All Masses
 Lenten Penance Service
 Tuesday, March 26, 2024, 7pm at church
 Holy Thursday Mass
 Thursday, March 28, 2024, at 7:30pm (Trilingual); 8:30pm to 12:30am Exposi-
 tion of the Blessed Sacrament in Church
 Good Friday Services
 Friday, March 29, 2024, at 11:00am Outdoor Living Stations of the Cross, Litur-
 gies: 3:00pm (English), 5:30pm (Spanish) and 7:30pm Tenebrae (Trilingual)
 Easter Vigil
 Saturday, March 30, 2024; 1:00 pm Blessing of the Food and 8:00pm Vigil Mass
 Easter Sunday
 Sunday, March 31, 2024, all Masses
 First Communion Day/May Crowning
 Saturday, May 4, 2024, at 10:00 am (reception after Mass)
 Mother's Day Masses
 Saturday, May 11, 2024, 8 am and 5 pm Mass and Sunday, All Masses
 The Ascension of the Lord
 Sunday, May 12, 2024, All Masses
 Pentecost
 Saturday, May 18, 2024, 5pm Mass and Sunday, May 19, 2024, All Masses
 Confirmation Day
 Sunday, May 19, 2024, 11AM Mass, Reception after Mass
 Feast of Corpus Christi
 Saturday, June 1, 2024, 5 AM Mass, and Sunday, June 2, 2024, All Masses
 Father's Day Masses
 Saturday, June 15, 2024, 5AM Mass and Sunday, June 16, 2024, All Masses

ST. PAUL ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

CONTACT US:

Pastor: Rev. Leonardo Jaramillo, PhD.

Phone: (973)-340-1300 ext. 102

Email: pastor.stpaul@verizon.net

Coordinator of Religious Education:

Deacon Hector Castellanos

Alvaro Leal

Phone: (973) 340-1300 ext. 106

(862) 823-6164

Email: dre.stpaulchurch@verizon.net

Parish Secretary: Sonia Almonte

Phone: (973) 340-1300 ext. 101

Email: stpaulchurchcnj@verizon.net

Parish Office:

231 Second Street

Clifton, NJ 07011

Fax: 973-340-2083

Website: www.stpaulcnj.org

FAMILY MASS AT ST PAUL:

*Family Mass is usually celebrated the last Sunday of each month
from September to April at 11:00am (English) and 1:00pm
(Spanish)*

Please join us to celebrate the gift of family.