

Regarding Parents' Concern about Sending Children to Religious Education Because of the Coronavirus

The safety of our children, our families, and our community is our first priority. We understand that some parents may decide that it is not safe for their children to attend school, participate in sports, and attend in-person religious education classes.

In that case, we request that:

1. Parents register their child for the religious education program. Choose the date that your child would attend classes if there were no safety concerns.
2. On the registration form, under the line "Does your child need accommodations to their learning environment . . . ?" write "My child will not attend in-person classes this year but will participate in all other activities."
3. Parents (and children if possible) come to the first class on Sunday September 27 or Wednesday September 30 to meet the catechist and receive materials. Parents will meet the catechist individually or in small groups at this short meeting.
4. Appropriate half of the sessions are Faith in Action activities. Parents will receive these activities electronically and the activities will also be posted on the parish website. Children do these activities at home and then send the completed forms to their catechist.
5. Parents will receive copies of Gospel Weekly (Promise, Good News, Venture, or Visions), either electronically or as hard copies. Parents read this pamphlet each week with their child.
6. If all in-person religious education classes are suspended and the catechists meet their students by Zoom or other means, the child participates in that meeting. Child participates in all non-in-person activities.
7. Child joins the in-person class when and if the parent feels it is safe for the child to do so. If the child will return to in-person classes, the parent notifies the catechist and also the religious education office at reled@shjmbasilica.org in advance.