

St. John the Evangelist Parish Religious Education Program (P.R.E.P.)

728 Big Oak Road

Morrisville, Pa. 19067

215-295-9239

May 19, 2021 - September 13, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I am humbled by the respect, support and trust that you so freely extend to me. This is an awesome responsibility and one I do not take lightly. I hope this letter finds you and your family in good health and in great spirits. My prayers, love, hugs and good wishes are sent to each one of you during this time..

A reopening plan for the Parish Religious Education Program (PREP) at St. John the Evangelist Parish has been developed. In order to provide the best possible educational opportunity, I am confident that this consistent and structured schedule will maximize the teaching and learning of our Catholic Faith in a safe environment. Consideration was given to families who will be navigating the virtual learning required by our local school district.

A strict cleaning protocol is in place coupled with face covering mandates and social distancing requirements. This plan prioritizes the health and safety of the students, the catechists, the staff and the families. Discussions, meetings, and research of the safest educational practices were reviewed and adopted. While not a perfect solution for all PREP families, I am confident that this reopening plan will meet the needs of the majority. Because of the on-going COVID 19 pandemic concerns, I am aware of the tenuous nature of plans realizing that they could be altered if new guidelines are presented. At this time, masks will be worn by all and we will practice social distancing.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Barbara Ann Nuzzolo, DRE

GUIDELINES FOR REOPENING PREP 2021-2022

OBJECTIVES:

- 1- To provide in-person instruction in the safest manner possible**
- 2- To provide the basic tenets of the Catholic Faith by a dedicated Catechist in a modified social environment that energizes and invigorates the mind**
- 3- To provide an alternative educational dimension to virtual learning**

PROCEDURES:

Students:

- Students must be registered to attend on the first day Go to the website and fill out the information.
<https://forms.parishgiving.org/form-5338657>
- Students will be provided weekly in-person classes beginning September 12/13, 2021.
- Student in-person attendance following this breakdown has enrollment no more than 14 per class and in any given classroom. All desks are 3 feet apart. Masks will be worn by all persons in PREP.
- Students will go directly upstairs to the assigned classroom and not gather in the cafeteria.
- Students will use the proper entrances/exits. EXIT B – Grades 4-5 EXIT C - Grades 6-7 and EXIT E Grades 1-2-3. Parents of students in Grades 1-2- 3 will enter the Youth Ministry Room and walk to the right and head up the C staircase. Students in the other grades enter the school building alone. These will be clearly marked.
- At dismissal, the students exit by the same door they entered. Parents will go upstairs to meet the students in Grades 1-2-3.

- Weather permitting, students in the grades 4-7 will meet their parents on the sidewalk that borders the school maintaining social distancing.
- It will be helpful that the parents be present a few minutes prior to dismissal and instruct the student on the procedure he or she is to follow. We must be cautious of the safety of the students at all times and watch for the traffic as well.
- Students will be required to complete work at home and complete in-person instruction each week.
- ALL STUDENTS are asked to have the following: Book bag, folder, copybook/notebook, textbook, three sharpened pencils, some personal wipes and tissues in a separate plastic bag. In addition, Grades 1-3 will add a glue stick and 8 crayons to this list. Not having these items interrupt the lesson plan that was prepared for the students.
- Clearly mark the full name and a phone number that can be used during PREP in case of an emergency on the outside of the book bag.

Parents/Guardians:

- Register your child if you have not done so by going to the PREP page of the parish website.
- Sign the waiver that is on the webpage. This must be completed and be on file before the students attends PREP class.
- Frequently check the health of your child and family members.
- Provide the support and supervision needed to complete the home assignments during the week and submit it to the catechist at PREP. We trust you to accomplish this task.
- Prioritize the reception of the Sacraments. Know this is a grace given by God. Successful completion of the curriculum and the student's understanding of the importance of the Sacrament is required. Except for extenuating health reasons, students **MUST BE PRESENT DURING THEIR SACRAMENT YEAR.** (Grade level 2 -Reconciliation; Grade level 3- First Eucharist and Grade level 7-Confirmation)
- Double check that the book bag and send all the necessary supplies to class.
- Provide a mask for the student to be worn upon entering the building and whenever PREP classes or events are scheduled.
- All persons who enter the building when PREP is in session must wear a mask and social distance. We are adhering to this policy throughout PREP until further notice.
- If a child is absent, please call the PREP office at 215-295-9239 and leave a message. Successful completion of the grade level curriculum and stellar attendance are requirement for promotion.

General:

- No other persons or groups will be present in the building during PREP
- Hand sanitizer and wipes will be available to those attending or volunteering in PREP
- All persons will wear a mask while in the building during PREP
- If you need more information, please call me at 215-295-9239. There is nothing that cannot be resolved in the best interest of all involved with PREP.

OUTCOMES: 1- Positive learning experiences in the classroom directly compliment the teaching that is continued by the parents in the home environment.

2- Personal faith lessons between parent and child establishes the opportunity to “gift” the Catholic faith culture to the younger generation.