

St. Mary Parish
Religious Education Office
17 Waterville Street
N. Grafton, MA 01536
508-839-3993, ext. 13

St. Philip Parish
Religious Education Office
12 West Street
Grafton, MA 01519
508-839-9130

February 25, 2018

Dear Parents,

It is time to register your children for Religious Education classes for the next school year, 2018 – 2019. The Catholic parishes of Grafton work together for open enrollment in the Religious Education Programs. We are excited to welcome your children, both new and returning disciples, in the fall. Sessions will begin on September 9th & 10th, 2018.

Enrollment: Please register your children on time. From the beginning of the registration process, all forms are numbered in the order in which they are received. **Note:** Children of catechists, aides, substitutes and office helpers are recorded on class lists first as these children must be placed in the session where their parents are giving of their time. Then the remaining registered children are recorded on the class lists.

Sessions: Please note class locations are by Grade.

St. Mary: Sessions are held here for children in Grades 1 – 5. There are 2 choices of sessions: Sundays from 9:15 to 10:15 am or Mondays from 4:30 to 5:30 pm.

St. Philip: Sessions are held here for children in Grades 6 - 10. This year, we are going to be offering some classes on Sunday mornings to meet the needs of families and teachers. Grades 6, 7 & 8 are held on Sundays from 6:00 to 7:00 pm, as well as Sunday mornings from 10:30 to 11:30 am. Grades 9 & 10 will meet on Sunday evenings from 6:00 to 7:00 pm, or time to be announced, depending on catechist availability.

Confirmation Program: Preparation for this sacrament for teens entering Grade 11 takes place at St. Philip. *Those who plan to prepare for Confirmation will attend an information meeting with their parents. You will be emailed the date for this meeting very soon.*

No fee or registration for Confirmation will be collected until after the first meeting. We are actively seeking two catechists and classroom aides for this program. Classes begin in September. Please contact Carole LeBlanc at 508-839-9130 if interested or if you have any questions.

Registration Schedule:

St. Mary: Registration for children who will be entering Grades 1 – 5 will be held in the Gathering Space during class times Sunday, March 11th from 9:15 to 10:15am, and Monday March 12th from 4:30 – 6:00pm. Registration will also be held after all weekend Masses Saturday and Sunday, March 10th & 11th.

St. Philip: Registration for children who will be entering Grades 6 – 10 will be held on Sunday, March 10th after the 9:00 am Mass and on Sunday evening from 6:00 to 7:00 pm, and on Monday, March 12th from 4:00 to 5:00 pm and 6:00 to 7:00pm.

Registration Fees:

- The Fee for Grade 2, a sacramental year, is \$70.00. The additional \$20.00 cost is not included in the family fee cap.
- The Fee for Grades 1 and Grades 3 through 10 is \$50.00 per child with a \$ 115.00 fee cap per family.
- If payment cannot be made at this time, still register your child(ren) and a later date can be determined.
- **If you choose to register after Monday, April 16th, the late fee is \$15.00 per family.**
- Should you withdraw your child(ren) from the program before September 1st, your fee will be refunded, less the cost of the student text book(s).

REGISTRATION FORMS FOR BOTH PARISHES ARE AVAILABLE ON THE CHURCH WEBSITE. We are using the same form this year, so you will only find it online at <https://stmarysgrifton.org/religious-education> or by coming to the office. Please print the registration form and bring the completed form along with your fees to the parish that your child will be attending. Unfortunately, fees cannot be paid online at this time.

For children new to the program, please provide a copy of their baptism certificate at the time of registration (if not baptized at St. Philip or St. Mary).

St. Mary and St. Philip will not do a Registration mailing to families currently enrolled in Religious Education.

Your Help is Welcomed and Needed in Religious Education Ministry: Please remember that you are the first teacher to your child and we thank you for allowing us to be a part of their faith formation, but we do need help! The Catechists sign-up sheets for the 2018-2019 program are now available in the Gathering Space at St. Mary and at the entrance at St. Philip. If you have not taught or helped out in some way, please join us. Training is available for those who sign up as Catechists. People often co-teach classes together, taking turns planning lessons. The sign-up sheets are grouped on the table by Grade and by Session, and are specific to the number of classes needed per grade. Please consider helping in one of the following ways;

Catechist	Substitute Catechist
Classroom Aide	Substitute Classroom Aide
Confirmation Catechist	Confirmation Classroom Aide
Office Helper	Special Projects Helper

When becoming involved in ministry, the following Safe Environment requirements must be met, as set forth by the Diocese of Worcester and the Catholic Conference of Bishops. Of the items below, only the CORI must be repeated every five years.

Safe Environment Requirements: Anyone ages 14 and up must submit a CORI check. The Code of Ministerial Conduct must be read, and the accompanying Code of Conduct Acknowledgement form signed and returned. Each person must attend a one-time Safe Environment Training Session (2 hours). The Safe Environment Training is also available on-line through the Diocesan Office's Web Site. Go to the Safe Environment page on our website for more details and downloadable forms.

Mass Schedule: We strongly encourage families to make weekly Mass celebration with their children their first priority. The combined Catholic churches of Grafton offer seven Masses each weekend. Your offertory envelope may be given at any of these churches and it will be returned to your parish. The Mass schedule in Grafton is:

St. James:	4:30 pm Saturdays, 7:30 am and 10:30 am Sundays
St. Mary:	4:00 pm Saturdays, 7:30 am and 10:30 am Sundays
St. Philip:	9:00 am Sundays

Please call with any questions. Carole LeBlanc can be reached at 508-839-9130.

With our Thanks and Blessings,

Carole LeBlanc
Administrator of Religious Education
St. Mary & St. Philip

Rev. Leo LeBlanc
Pastor and Administrator