

New to Faith Formation?

Start Here!

Required Registration Forms

- **Student Registration/Waiver Forms (Forms A & B) -**
 - **Form A** - Every child participating in religious education *must* have a completed and signed “Form A” on file.
 - **Form B** - In addition, a separate “Form B” *must* be completed and signed for each child for the purpose of accompanying Form A per each program and/or activity.
 - **In Summary** - Every student *must* have a completed and signed Form A and Form B on file to participate in weekly religious education classes. In addition, a new Form B must be completed, signed, and turned in for each parish event a youth participates in such as Vacation Bible School, retreats, days of reflection, etc.
 - **Note** - *Weekly religious education is considered to be one “event” regarding Form B. But, retreats, days of reflection, Vacation Bible School, sacrament preparation programs, and on-site or off-site ministry events are each considered to be their own “event” and, as such, require a new Form B.*
- **Adult Volunteer Registration Requirements -**
 - **Form D** - Every adult volunteer *must* complete and sign a Form D liability waiver form.
 - **Safe Environment Certification** - Every adult and teen volunteer *must* complete the Safe Environment Certification requirements appropriate for their age according to diocesan requirements. **NO Teen OR ADULT may volunteer for any volunteer role in the diocese without this certification.**

Registration Costs

- Parishes should strive to keep registration costs to a minimum to allow all parishioners to participate regardless of financial means.
- Parishes should have consistent, uniform fees for religious education. They should not have variable registration fees based on parishioner activity or membership status.
- However, multi-child discounts for families with many children are encouraged.

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Session Content & Structure

Ages Served -

- Every parish in the Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth *must* offer religious education for children grades K-12 who are not attending a Catholic school (Pre-K is optional.) .)
- Parishes should accomplish this by utilizing their own resources or running a joint program with a neighboring parish or parishes.
- Religious education is essential, for it serves as the foundation to Sacramental Preparation, comprehensive Youth Ministry, etc.

Session Number and Length -

- Every parish is to provide 25-30 weekly religious education sessions per year.
- The recommendation for each religious education session is 1 hour for elementary students and 1 ½ hours for older students.

Curriculum and Texts -

- All parish catechetical programs are to use the textbooks approved by the Diocese of Fort Worth.
- A list of approved textbook series can be found in the *Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth Department of Catechesis General Catechetical Guidelines* which can be found at: <https://fwdioc.org/diocesan-catechetical-guidelines>

Summer Vacation Bible School Programs

- Parishes should make every effort to offer VBS.

Parents' Responsibilities

- While parishes are responsible for providing religious education, *parents are responsible for making sure their children participate in the parish programs.*
- Parents may choose to homeschool their children *as long as they do so in collaboration with the local parish.* This is even more important with regards to sacramental preparation.