

ST. JOSEPH COMMUNITY CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION (2010-2011)
SAFETY INFORMATION & FAMILY RESOURCES

KEEPING OUR YOUNG PEOPLE SAFE

- For the safety of all the students, it is necessary to **sign your child into the classroom each day, and sign him or her out at the end of class.** Please do NOT drop them off in the parking lot, or even inside the building. Walk to their classroom, say hi to the catechists (they're friendly people and want to meet you all!), and sign the form at the beginning and end of each class.
- **Class starts promptly at 10:45 AM.** Late arrival is disruptive to the class and discourteous to the catechists, and gives your child a message that this isn't really important. Please be on time.
- **Class ends at 11:45.** We realize that on rare occasions it may necessary to leave class early, but that can be very disruptive so should be avoided if at all possible. And be on time to pick your child up; it is traumatic for children to be left waiting, and difficult for our volunteer catechists to rearrange their schedules to babysit for a tardy parent.
- All volunteers who work with children are to comply with the Oakland Diocese **Safe Environment Project**, which includes periodic training.
- No food, drink or gum is allowed in the classrooms. Cell phones must be turned off, or left at home if possible.

RESOURCES

You are the first and most important of your child's catechists. The following may assist you in your efforts:

- *Pre-K/Kindergarten* - Each issue of your child's weekly "Promise" magazine (based on the Sunday's gospel) has a "Parent Note" with suggestions on how you can share the day's lesson with them.
- *Grades 1 through 6* – Each chapter of the Blest Are We textbook starts with a "Family Time" page, which offers activities to do at home to prepare for the following week's lesson. "Family Time" is also available in Spanish, Portuguese, Vietnamese and Polish on the publisher's website at www.blestarewe.com, or ask for a copy.
- *Junior High (7th and 8th grades)* uses the We Live Our Faith series (Volume II – "As Members of the Church"). Each chapter includes a "sharing faith with your family" section. There are also family resources online at www.weliveourfaith.com
- *For internet users of all ages* - some Catholic publishers offer family-friendly websites with useful activities or ideas for sharing faith traditions at home. Try www.blestarewe.com or www.faithfirst.com.
- *Every family* receives "At Home With Our Faith," a monthly newsletter to nurture the spirituality of families. We hope you read and enjoy its articles.