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| St. Lucy Catholic Church  Racine, WI |
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| Catholic Youth Formation Family Handbook |

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Ministries at St. Lucy Catholic Church

Pre-School Sunday School

For all children ages 3-5

Pre-School Sunday School is held during the 10:30 Sunday morning Mass from September through May. A registration form must be filled out prior to attendance. This is a perfect opportunity to participate in Mass without the added stresses a preschooler can cause; and it gives the preschooler a Bible lesson at his/her own level. Every Sunday the children are kept busy with a Bible story, songs and activities. Parents should bring their child to the classroom before Mass begins and pick their child up at the classroom when Mass has ended. Snacks are provided each Sunday. Children must be potty trained.

CCD

Elementary/Middle School ages 5-8

Classes are offered for children in grades 1 through 8 on Wednesday evenings from September through May. St. Lucy’s is the only parish in Racine that offers two sessions of CCD on Wednesday evenings. The sessions are one hour in length, 5:15 – 6:15, and 6:30 – 7:30. Parents are able to enroll their children in the session that best fits their schedule.

First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion take place in second grade. Students must have attended first grade CCD classes to be eligible. Parents are required to attend two retreats with their children.

Confirmation Program

11th Graders

The Confirmation program is for all high school juniors who have had religion class in our Rel. Ed. program or who attend a Catholic High School.Confirmation is a Sacrament of Initiation: It is **NOT** a graduation. The program works at growing relationships that help “To guide our teens to not only know God and His Church, but to bring them to a deeper personal understanding about living out their Catholic discipleship each day.

High School *R*eligious *E*ducation *P*rogram (R.E.P.)

For Teen in 9th and 10th Grade

The R.E.P. classes are the start of the three year confirmation program here at St. Lucy. **Our vision** is “to guide teens to not only know God and His Church, but to bring them to a deeper personal understanding about living out their Catholic discipleship each day. All classes are held at St. Lucy’s, on Sunday night starting in September from 6pm till 7:30pm.

High School day.”  We do this by using great resources like [The YDisciple Program](https://vimeo.com/139714995) on Formed.org. Classes are held on Sunday Nights starting in September from 6pm till 7:30 pm at St. Lucy’s.



Youth Ministry

For 8th through 12th Grade

This ministry will provide opportunities for high school age youth to socialize, serve and grow spiritually in their faith.

* Youth Service Trips
* Steubenville Youth Conference
* Youth Room Nights
* Various Social and Spiritual Actives

Talk to Eric Antrim with questions or ideas at 262-498-9028

Young Adult Ministry

This ministry will provide opportunities for young adults from 18-37 to socialize, serve and gain spiritual guidance. We will bring in speakers that can relate to issues affecting young adults in today’s society, create groups where young adults can meet, and explore their faith, and provide opportunities for young adults to serve others in our community. Please contact Eric Antrim for more information

* Young Adult Game Night
* Brewing the Faith

**General Guidelines and Expectations for all Religious Education**

**Attendance**

All Religious Education classes must be attended with illness or serious family difficulties being the only exceptions. No other activities – sports or leisure – should be viewed as more important. Children learn their priorities from the example of adults. If a child misses three consecutive classes or shows any erratic attendance patterns, the parents will be contacted to discuss how to ensure that the child will be able to move on to the next level the following year.

11th grade Confirmation students are allowed to **miss one class;** as the preparation for this Sacrament is very important; and there is a limited amount of class time.

**Behavior**

It is important that all students do their best to be well-behaved and cooperative. The students are to display and expect fair treatment. Courtesy and respect should be shown at all times. The general guideline is, “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.” Specific classroom rules will be set by the teachers and discussed at the beginning of each year.

**Cell Phones**

Cell phones are to be kept turned off in classes. If a teacher sees a student using his or her cell phone during class, the teacher has the right to take the cell phone until class has ended. If a student repeats using the cell phone in class the parent will be notified.

**Dismissal**

Parents and guardians are expected to pick up students on time at the end of Religious Education activities. Parents of first graders should pick up their children at the classroom.  
**No child will be released from class early unless they have a note from their parent/guardian.**

**Emergency & Storm Closing**

If a Religious Education activity must be cancelled due to inclement weather or for other emergency reasons an announcement will be made on WRJN radio station and on television Channel 12. If Racine Public Schools are closed due to inclement weather, all Religious Education classes will be cancelled.

**Children with Special Needs**

Currently St. Lucy /St. Sebastian’s does not have a Religious Education program specifically for children with special needs. However, whenever possible and with input from a child’s parents, a child with special needs will be placed in our R.E.P.

**Protecting All of God’s Family (VIRTUS)**

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishop’s Charter for the Protection of Children and Youth has asked that we implement awareness sessions for abuse prevention with the children and youth in our Catholic Youth Formation catechetical and school programs. The problem of child sexual abuse is a prominent concern of the Catholic Church. At this critical time in the Church, we are presented with the opportunity to educate our children and ourselves in order to prevent future incidents of abuse.

In the effort to keep all of our children and youth safe, awareness sessions are planned annually to address this issue.

All adult volunteers in our parish programs are required to participate in a Safe Environment awareness session, background check, read and sign off on the Code of Ethical Standards and complete a Volunteer profile in order to volunteer with children.

**Child Abuse and Neglect**

According to Wisconsin State Law, Section 48.981, Statues, any pastor or school administrator, teacher, counselor or related professional who has reasonable cause (that set of facts which would cause a reasonably prudent person to conclude that abuse or neglect will occur or has occurred), to suspect child abuse or neglect, or has reason to believe that a child has been threatened with abuse or neglect, and that the abuse or neglect will occur, is obligated to report the case immediately (as soon as possible, but not more than 24 hours), by telephone or personal visit, to the County Child Welfare Agency, the office of the County Sheriff or the City Police Department.

**Discipline & Guidelines**

Students are expected and required to conduct themselves in a Christian manner at all times.

* No racial, ethnic, or gender slurs
* No cursing-especially taking the Lord’s name in vain
* No possessing or using cigarettes, e-cigs, alcohol, or drugs
* No rude or disruptive behavior in class
* If on break, do not interrupt other classes
* Do not vandalize the school facilities
* Do not go into the day school students’ desks
* Do not write or draw on the chalk boards
* The possession of ANY weapons or threats of bodily harm toward other will not be tolerated

If a student repeatedly disrupts class, engages in offensive behavior and/or uses abusive or obscene language, parents will be called immediately for consultation.

**Students Remember**

This is your class-please participate! The more you put into the class the more you will get out of it.

* Please show others respect-just as you’d expect to be respected
* Do not be quick to judge others, or to put down their opinions
* What is said in your class stays in your class, do not gossip about others or situations that where talked about in class.

**Parent and Student Expectations**

To insure that our programs are as successful as possible we need your cooperation and support as parents/guardians. We are asking that you make a commitment to support us in the following ways.

* Participate fully in the sacramental life of the Parish!

Attend Mass Weekly, attend special devotional services. Children learn a great deal by attending Mass on a regular basis and by witnessing and practicing your faith.

* Help your children be prompt and prepared for class!

Losing time at the beginning of classes deters from accomplishing what is planned.

* Continue to bring your children!

As in any curriculum, one year builds on the next, so full participation through the grades and sacrament preparation is necessary to receive a full religious education.

* Consider continuing your own faith development!

Join one of our adult formation groups. See our bulletin for groups and times.

* Volunteer to help!

With the consistent growth in our programs more and more volunteers are needed to create meaningful classes and experiences for our students.

* Support your parish community!

Our parish community supports our programs financially. We need every family to support us as well with their time, talent and treasure. Please prayerfully consider sharing your skills and interests with us.

Above All

Please work with your children and encourage them by asking about their lessons, answering their questions, and setting time aside for family prayer and discussion. Your children will see by you example, the importance of their faith and Christian education.

**“The *church of the home* remains the one place where children and young people can receive an authentic catechesis. There cannot be too great an effort on the part of *Christian parents to prepare for this ministry of being their own children's catechist.*"**

**St. John Paul II.**

**Catholic Youth Formation**

St. Lucy Catholic Church

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St. Lucy website is

[www.stlucychurch.org](http://www.stlucychurch.org)

Parish Office Phone

262-554-1801



St. Lucy/St. Sebastian is led by

Rev. Fr. Javier Guativa