

## Attendance Policy for Mass

Weekly participation at Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation is required by God's 3rd Commandment.

### Mass Participation Slips

Mass Participation slips will be counted each month and displayed in the main entrance of the CFCC. A small reward will be given to the class that has the most slips.

- After Mass, your child may fill out a slip from the basket. The basket is located at the back of parish churches.
- If Mass is attended outside of our parish, you will need to ask the priest to sign one of their bulletins and give the signed bulletin to Mrs. Legg. (This has been a common practice in most parishes and the priests are very willing to assist.)

## Reception of the Sacraments

The Pastor, in cooperation with the parents and catechists, makes the final determination whether a child is prepared for reception of a Sacrament.

## Fees & Registration

The fee for each school year is \$60.00 for one child and \$65.00 for a family with more than one child. There is also a retreat fee for the 2nd grade and retreat and robe fees for the 8th grade. Please note that the money collected barely covers 1/3 of the costs of the program. The rest is provided by the parish.

A new Registration Form must be filled out every year. A late fee of \$5.00 will be added to those forms that are received after August 31. Registration Forms are available on the website [honesdalecatholic.com](http://honesdalecatholic.com), at the Parish Office (414 Church St., 570-253-4561) and at the back of each parish church.

## Additional Faith Formation Programs

**Eucharistic Chapel Adoration** - 414 Church St. - Our Eucharistic Chapel has been open 24/7 for over 3 decades! Come and spend time in the presence of Jesus. Knock and the door will be opened.

**Children of Mary Society**: Boys & girls ages 8 - 13 meet the first Saturday of each month from 8:45 -11 am in St. Mary Magdalen Meeting Room for movies, crafts, prayers and snack. Free! For more information check us out at [honesdalecatholic.com](http://honesdalecatholic.com).

# 2023-2024 Faith Formation Policies and Guidelines

St. John the Evangelist & St. Mary Magdalen  
of Honesdale

St. Joseph of Rileyville and St. Bernard of Beach Lake



*Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these. (Matt. 19:14)*

Pastor: Fr. William J. P. Langan  
414 Church St., Honesdale, PA 18431  
web: [honesdalecatholic.com](http://honesdalecatholic.com) / 570-253-4561

Coordinator of Religious Education: Mrs. Anastasia Legg  
329 Cliff Street Suite 4, Honesdale, PA 18431  
email: [rel.ed.stjohnshonesdale@verizon.net](mailto:rel.ed.stjohnshonesdale@verizon.net) / 570-647-1555

## The Mission of the Faith Formation Program

*God is Love...  
but faith without works is empty.*

The mission of our Faith Formation Program is to facilitate the *formation of whole and holy families* by supporting and enhancing their relationship with God through His Church. As the baptized members of Christ's Church we will lead all by example in the witnessing of Christ's love in our lives and our parish community. We will strive to strengthen our love of God by passing it on to those participating in our program; through prayer, liturgical celebrations, formal and informal catechesis, and our service to each other.

You, the parents, who are your children's primary teachers of the Catholic Faith, will be assisted by the priests, catechists, and parish community. We will provide opportunities and materials, consistent with the teachings of the Catholic Church. We will assist you in the preparation of your child's reception of the Sacraments including, Reconciliation, Communion, and Confirmation.

### Excerpts from the Catechism of the Catholic Church:

- "The parish is the Eucharistic community and the heart of the liturgical life of Christian families." (CCC.2226)
- "The pastoral care of the parish is entrusted to a pastor as its own shepherd under the authority of the diocesan bishop." (CCC.2179)
- "The parish is the place where all the faithful can be gathered together for the Sunday celebration of the Eucharist." (CCC.2179)
- "The Sunday celebration of the Lord's Day and His Eucharist is at the heart of the Church's life." (CCC.2177)
- "The Sunday Eucharist is the foundation and confirmation of all Christian practice. For this reason the faithful are obliged to participate in the Eucharist on days of obligation, unless excused for a serious reason... Those who deliberately fail in this obligation commit a grave sin." (CCC.2181)

## Damascus Program on Thursdays

Children (Grades 1st - 6th) attending the Damascus School will meet after School on Thursdays from 3:00 to 4:10 pm at the Damascus School. Any child going home with another family will need a note signed by the parent/guardian to that effect.

## Honesdale Program on Sundays

Children (Grade K—8th) are to be dropped off at the Catholic Family Community Center (CFCC)- 329 Cliff Street before 9:00 am. Dismissal will be at 10:10 am.

Families whose last names begin with the letters A - L will sign out their child/children from the classroom after showing ID. Students in 6th through 8th grade may sign themselves out and siblings.

Families whose last names begin with the letters M - Z will pick up their child/children from the cafeteria door in the rear of the building. You must stay in your car as you follow the one-way driveway from the right side of the building around to the lower door. Any child going home with another family will need to have a note signed by the parent/guardian to that effect.

## Attendance Policy for Class

Regular attendance at Faith Formation classes is necessary for effective catechesis to take place and for a student to continue in the program. Therefore:

- **Students are expected to attend all classes minus absences due to illness and/or emergency**
- ***Special arrangements need to be made with Mrs. Legg before missing classroom instruction for non-illness or non-emergency absences. All makeup work must be completed at home by the student and returned to the Mrs. Legg in a timely manner.***
  - More than 3 absences could result in delayed reception of receiving a Sacrament.
  - If you know that other events will require your child to miss more than 3 classes during a Sacramental year (2nd, 7th, or 8th), your child may:
    - postpone the other events until after the Sacrament has been received.
    - attend Faith Formation classes at another parish that meets their schedule needs
    - postpone receiving the Sacrament until in high school to participate in the parish's young adult formation program.