



St. Joseph Church | 5050 St. Joseph's Road | Coopersburg, PA 18036 | 610.965.2877 | www.stjoescoopersburg.org

Parish Religious Education Program (P.R.E.P.)

Welcome back to all our returning families and to our new students! Our volunteer staff at St. Joseph Church looks forward to another year of sharing the teachings of Christ with the children of our Parish Family through our Parish Religious Education Program. Please read through this letter carefully for important information regarding the 2020-2021 school year, including the calendar located on the reverse. PREP Registration forms should be returned to the Rectory as soon as possible, no later than September 20th.

- Our PREP courses will be taught remotely this school year using the Zoom platform as our main source of communication. Students will need a device with a screen, speakers, and microphone, in addition to internet access. The teacher should be able to see and communicate with your child, and your child will need to be able to engage likewise. Your child will need a quiet place to work, free of distractions. If work needs to be submitted to the teacher, the teacher will give you directions on how to do so (typically via email). Teachers may also occasionally have students engage in online resources such as our textbook website, Google Docs or Forms, YouTube videos, religious and/or educational websites, etc.
- Session times for grades 1-8 will be approximately one (1) hour long. In an effort to assist families with two or more students, classes will be held at different times: Grades 1-4 will hold sessions on Sunday morning from 10:15AM-11:15AM; Grades 5-7 will hold sessions on Sunday morning from 11:15AM-12:15PM. PREP families with children in grades 1-7 are encouraged to attend either the 5:15PM Saturday evening vigil Mass, or the 9:00 AM Mass on Sunday mornings. Confirmation classes will continue to be held Wednesday evenings from 6:30PM-7:30PM.
- Workbooks & supplemental books will be provided, and should accompany your child to each session. Your child should also have the following supplies available during each session: writing utensils; loose leaf or printer paper; crayons, colored pencils or markers; a highlighter; scissors and glue. Your child's teacher will let you know if any specific items are required prior to the session beginning. It's always helpful to have water to drink, as well!
- We are counting on the parents of our students to have a successful school year. A parent of children in grades 1-4 is encouraged to be present in the room with the child during the session, to make sure he/she is engaged and participating in the session, as well as for any troubleshooting issues with technology. A parent of students in grades 5-8 should be available to assist their student as needed, as well as make sure they are properly engaged and participating in the session. Older students should have the ability to work independently.
- Attendance will be taken in Zoom sessions, and/or via email or submission of work when a Zoom session is not held. Absences should be reported to your child's teacher prior to the scheduled session, and all homework should be submitted as requested/expected. Parents should work with their student on any missed assignments.
- The main source of communication between parents and teachers will be via email. Please be sure to check for these emails regularly, as they will include links to the Zoom sessions, important information and/or links for the upcoming session, messages from the parish offices, and any other pertinent information. Teachers will be contacting you shortly to begin the communication chain. **Questions or concerns can always be directed to the Rectory: 610-965-2877; Mrs. Roe Lanning, director, prep@stjoescoopersburg.org; Fr. Buckley, pastor, rectory@stjoescoopersburg.org.**