



Queen of Apostles /Reina de los Apostoles

Office of Children and Youth Ministries
Religious Education Program
2016 - 2017

General Information for Parents/Información General

Parish Clergy/Clero

Rev. Leopoldo Vives, DCJM, Pastor/Párroco

Rev. Juan Espino, DCJM, Parochial Vicar/Vicario Parroquial and Director of Religious Education, Office of Children and Youth Ministries

Rev. Javier O'Connor, DCJM, Parochial Vicar

Rev. Ignacio de Ribera, DCJM, In residence/En residencia

Deacon/Diácono Richard C. Caporiccio

Contact Information

Queen of Apostles
4329 Sano Street
Alexandria, VA 22312
703-354-8711

Queen of Apostles School
4409 Sano Street
Alexandria, VA 22312
703-354-0714

general@queenofapostles.org
<http://www.queenofapostles.org>

Religious Education (RE) classes for students, kindergarten (age 5) - high school
Sundays from 9:00-10:15 a.m. at Queen of Apostles School
September 11, 2016 - June 4, 2017

High school activities are scheduled on Fridays (except the last Friday of the month), 6:00-8:00 p.m. and include open gym, adoration, apostolic project, and other activities. Meet Fr. Juan at Notre Dame Graduate School (4407 Sano Street).

A Bible study is scheduled on Thursday nights, 6:00-7:30 p.m., starting on October 6, 2016, in the School Library (4409 Sano Street).

Updates about the RE program will be published in the parish bulletin, website and email.

Sunday Mass/Misa dominical

Saturday/*sábados*: 5:00 p.m. (*English*), 7:00 p.m. (*Spanish*)

Sunday/*domingos* (*English*): 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12 Noon

Holy Days of Obligation/Dias de precepto

Please check the bulletin for Mass times. *Consultar el boletín.*

Weekday Masses/Misa diaria

Monday through Friday/*lunes a viernes* (*English*): 6:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m.

Saturday/*sábado* (*English*): 8:00 a.m.

Holy Hour/Hora Santa

Thursday/*Jueves*: 7:30 p.m.

Sacrament of Penance/Confesiones (*English and Spanish*)

Sundays/*domingo*: 10:00 a.m.

Monday through Friday/*de lunes a viernes*: 7:00-7:30 a.m.

Saturday/*sábados*: 4:00-5:30 p.m. and 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Wednesday/*miércoles*: 6:30 p.m. until last penitent; hasta la última persona en la línea de espera.

Thursday/*jueves*: 7:30 p.m. during Holy Hour/*durante la Hora Santa*

Religious Education: The Parent – Catechist Partnership

The role of each family is to bring children to know Christ and to know the gift of His Church. Parents are the primary religious teachers of their children. The home is where a child first experiences the Catholic faith. To assist families in this most important mission, Queen of Apostles aims to work in partnership with parents in order to assist them in living their vocation as teachers. The Religious Education program complements, and does not replace, the catechesis that children ought to receive in their home.

Los padres son los primeros maestros de sus hijos/as. Uno de los propósitos del programa de la Educación Religiosa es ayudar a los padres en su vocación como maestros de sus hijos/as. El programa de Educación Religiosa ayuda, no re-emplaza la catequesis que sus hijos/as reciben en sus hogares.

Together with our catechists and aides, who serve as your first point of contact regarding Religious Education class, we welcome this opportunity to assist your children in living the Christian life: learn to pray, know the Bible and learn Scripture, prepare for the Sacraments.

Queen of Apostles Policies and Procedures for Religious Education

1. **Absences.** Religious Education classes are held at Queen of Apostles School located at 4409 Sano Street, Alexandria, VA. Parents must bring their children to Religious Education class on-time, and with homework completed. Students are to bring their textbook and other materials to class each week. Students are not have more than 3 absences for the school year. Your child's faith formation ought to take precedence over extracurricular activities. If your child will be absent, a written note from you is to be provided to the catechist at least one week in advance. If you child will be absent due to illness, please send a message to s.gray@queenofapostles.org.

Punctuality. We suggest arriving by 8:45 a.m. on Sundays. Children arriving to RE after 9:00 a.m. will not be admitted to class and an absence will be recorded. Please make plans to leave the house early on rainy and snowy days to avoid a late arrival and interrupting the catechists and other students. Please park close to the school to allow Mass attendees to safely enter and exit the church and parking lot.

Signing-in and out. Each Sunday, a parent must sign-in their child before class and sign-out their child after class. Together, the family can attend Mass at 7:30 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. The same parent is asked to sign-in and sign-out on the same Sunday. If an authorized adult is picking up the student, please leave a written note with the Check-in Desk with the name and contact information of the person who is picking up the child.

All parents or authorized adult must sign-out their child at St. Joseph Hall/School Gym. Parents of children attending kindergarten through grade 5 meet their children in the School Gym. Parents of children attending grade 6 through high school meet their children outside of the school lobby. No student will be released from the school until a parent/authorized adult meets the child at the school. Children will no longer meet up with their parent/family in the church.

Walkers. Families who live near the parish and wish to have their children walk home must submit a written, signed and dated note authorizing that children are permitted to walk home. The note is submitted at the Check-in Desk with the understanding that the children 1) Must walk directly home; 2) Must follow all traffic rules; 3) Must cross only at crosswalks and corners; 4) May not skateboard or roller blade to or from school.

Thank you for ensuring the safety of our children.

2. Mass. Children must attend Mass every Sunday and Holy Days of Obligation. Religious Education classes are scheduled so that your family can attend Mass before or after class.

Prayer. We strongly encourage all families to pray together. Please pray with your children at home, when they go to bed, when they wake up, before meals, etc. Prayer can be a brief moment in the presence of God to thank Him for all the goodness we experience from him.

Confessions. We make a great effort to offer baptized children in grade 2 and above opportunities for confessions. On Sundays throughout the Religious Education School Year, students will be invited to receive the Sacrament of Penance. Nonetheless, we encourage you to go as a family to receive this sacrament and to celebrate afterward with a small treat.

See the above Confession schedule.

3. Clothing. Students are expected to wear modest clothing. Shorts, low-cut shirts, tops that do not cover the midriff area, pants hanging off of the hips, mini-skirts, spaghetti straps are never appropriate to wear to class. Graphic depictions or written words referring to drugs, alcohol, weapons, politics or graphic sexual connotation or profanity may not appear on any clothing. Flip-flop sandals are not permitted due to safety regulations. Hair must be neatly combed.

Se espera que todos los estudiantes se vistan con ropa modesta y apropiada para el salon de clases. Shorts deberán tener el largo de los pantalones “Bermuda” es decir por debajo de las rodillas o mas largos. Las blusas que no cubran el ombligo, pantalones que cuelguen de las caderas, mini-faldas, blusas con tirantes, camisas con diseños o dibujos con malas palabras, o referencia a dogra, alcohol, armas, política, muerte, diabólica o con notación sexual no se permitirán durante el tiempo de catequesis. Los hombres deberán remover sus sarcillos y gorras dentro de la escuela y en la Iglesia. No se permite usar sandalias “flip-flop” debido a las reglas de seguridad. El pelo/cabello debe estar peinado.

4. Other Policies. Students must respect the Queen of Apostles classroom and school space. Please, no food or chewing gum. Please, no phones, iPods or other devices. Devices will be removed from the student and returned to the parent at the end of class.

5. Weather Cancellation. In the event of snowy weather, we follow Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) announcements for closings related to snow. If FCPS activities are cancelled at

any time during the course of the day, our RE classes will be cancelled as well. Announcements may be heard on WMAL-AM 630 and WTOP-FM 103.5 and most television and radio stations.

Sacraments – The Beginning of Something New

Baptism.

If your child has not been baptized, your child will receive formation in Christian life along with children his/her age. Fr. Juan Espino and the child's catechist will determine when your child will be baptized. Generally, children over the age of 7 years old, will attend no less than two consecutive years of Religious Education.

- We will have three mandatory meetings to discuss details about Baptism/Sacraments of Initiation
 - Sunday, October 23, 2016 in the Multipurpose Room (school) at 9:00 a.m. (parent, godparent)
 - Sunday, January 22, 2017 in the Multipurpose Room (school) at 9:00 a.m. (parent, godparent)
 - Saturday, March 11, 2017 in Queen of Apostles Church at 10:00 a.m. (student, parent, godparent); Learn the Liturgy
- Rites and Scrutinies for catechumens (unbaptized) are scheduled for December, March and April. Dates will be confirmed.
- Sacraments of Initiation practice is scheduled for Saturday, April 15, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. (student, godparent) in Queen of Apostles Church.

First Penance and First Holy Communion.

If your child has been baptized, has not received the Sacraments of First Penance and First Holy Communion, and is attending grade 2 or above, your child will be receive formation in Christian life along with children his/her age. Fr. Juan Espino and the child's catechist will determine when your child will receive the Sacraments. Generally, the child will attend no less than two consecutive years of Religious Education.

First Penance is scheduled for Saturday, February 11, 2017 at 9:30 a.m. at Queen of Apostles. Family members are also invited to receive this Sacrament of Healing.

First Holy Communion is scheduled for Saturday, June 3, 2017 at Queen of Apostles.

- We will have two mandatory meetings to discuss details about these Sacraments.
 - Sunday, October 9, 2016 in the Multipurpose Room (school) at 9:00 a.m. (parent)
 - Sunday, April 2, 2017 in the Multipurpose Room (school) at 9:00 a.m. (parent)
- First Holy Communion practice is tentatively scheduled for May 31/June 1, 2017 in the early evening (student and parent)

Confirmation:

Generally, baptized students who have received First Penance and First Holy Communion receive the Sacrament of Confirmation during eighth grade or high school. Fr. Juan Espino, along with the student's catechist, will determine which students will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on June 11, 2017. The date of Confirmation is determined by the Chancery. The student is to attend no less than two consecutive years of Religious Education before Confirmation.

- We will have two meetings to discuss details about this Sacrament.
 - Monday, September 26, 2016 in Hannan Hall at 6:30 p.m. (student, parent)
 - Sunday, March 19, 2017 in the Multipurpose Room (school) at 9:00 a.m. (parent)
- A mandatory retreat for students in eighth grade and high school is scheduled for Saturday, December 3, 2016, 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
- The Confirmation rehearsal will be on June 4, 2017 (student, sponsor).

Thank you for enrolling your child in Queen of Apostles Religious Education Program. It is an opportunity for your child to grow in the Catholic faith and learn how to live the Christian life.

Mary, Queen of Apostles, pray for us.