



ST. ROSE OF LIMA  
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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Newtown, CT 06470

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203-426-2333, Ext. 1

## **Requirements for Home Schooling your child**

Dear Parents:

Thank you for choosing the Home School program for your child. In choosing to do this, you agree to be not only the primary religious educator as a parent, but also the secondary religious educator for your child. You also agree to fulfill the Home School requirements as stipulated by the Diocese of Bridgeport and the St. Rose Religious Education board.

- 1) A Home School family must be a registered, participating, and contributing member of the parish, and must be registered in the Religious Education Program.
- 2) The Home School Program is available only to faith-filled families who have a legitimate reason for choosing the Home School alternative (e.g. you desire a family faith-learning experience where faith can be fully integrated into daily life and that strengthens family bonds; your child will learn better in a one-to-one setting; it will provide the opportunity for deeper and more intimate learning and discussion).
- 3) Parents must secure permission to Home School from the Director of Religious Education.
  - To apply, please complete the bottom section of this form and return.
  - The Director will notify you via email of her approval.
- 4) **If your child is in a sacramental year (Grades 2 and 8), you must also obtain approval from the pastor\*.**
  - Please send a separate letter or email to Msgr. Weiss (secretary@strosechurch.com) explaining your reasons for wishing to Home School your 2<sup>nd</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grader.
  - We will notify you of his approval.

\*Ordinarily Sacramental preparation may only be accomplished within classes of the Religious Education Program because sacraments are celebrated within the community of the church and therefore, students should be formed within their parish's community of faith.

- 5) Children and their Parents who provide Religious Education as part of the Home School program are required to attend the following meetings (families will be notified of the dates in the summer of **2020**):
  - the Catechist Kick-off meeting on a Sunday in mid-September (parent/guardian only)

- Four additional meetings for parents and their children, at which time their academic progress will be discussed. **Children must bring their textbooks to these sessions.**

**Please note:** Home School meetings are always held on a Thursday from 4:30-5:30 pm. If this is NOT a time that you can arrange to attend, please sign up for our regular class program.

**6) Home School Attendance Policy:**

Attendance is taken at each meeting.

- If a student is absent, it is the responsibility of the parent to contact the Home School Coordinator to set up a date and time to meet to review the student's academic progress.
- If your child is in a Sacramental preparation year, you may also be required to meet with your grade-level coordinator.
- Due to the small number of required meetings for Home School families, more than one absence will be a consideration for repeating the grade and/or a meeting with the Board of Religious Education to review student progress, especially in a sacramental year.

(While there are always exceptions - e.g, disability; serious or chronic illness; upheaval in the family - we believe that multiple absences from these 4 quarterly meetings does not reflect a true desire to fulfill religious education requirements and to prepare children to receive the sacraments).

**7)** To receive credit for having completed the grade and to advance to the next grade level, Home School **students must turn in a completed textbook** (which is distributed at the September Catechist meeting); attend all Home School meetings (refer to the attendance policy for Home School); and pass all required grade level assessments.

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**Children's Names & Grades:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Please indicate your reason for requesting to Home School your child:**

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\_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address** (if different from registration): \_\_\_\_\_