



**St. Cletus Parish
Religious Education Program
Teen Seekers of Faith
Policies and Guidelines
2024 - 2025**

We, the parish family of St. Cletus in LaGrange are called and empowered by the Spirit to continue the mission and ministry of Jesus in the world today. With the gifts God has given each one of us, we strive to reach out in faith to the needs of our sisters and brothers in our parish, in our community, and in our world.

St. Cletus Parish Faith Formation Program is operated under the auspices of the Catholic Bishop of Chicago, a corporation sole, in the Archdiocese of Chicago.

St. Cletus Parish Faith Formation Program admits teens of any sex, race, color, or national and ethnic origin to all rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students in this religious education program.

St. Cletus Parish Faith Formation Program does not discriminate based on sex, race, color, or national and ethnic origin in the administration of its policies, supplementary programs, or any other program-based function.

As the parish catechetical staff, we have outlined the following policies to ensure a harmonious, effective, and growth-filled journey for those participating in Teen Seekers of Faith.

ENROLLMENT: Teen Seekers of Faith is a process open to any teen, from any of the Burlington Cluster parishes, or within our vicariate in the Archdiocese of Chicago. If a parish offers Confirmation during the high school years, your teen should first seek admittance to their home parish's program.

REGISTRATION: Registration is open until August 16, 2024. If Teen Seekers of Faith is not a suitable program for your teen, the Coordinator of Faith Formation will attempt to place your teen in another program that may be better able to accommodate the needs of your teen.

PROGRAM FEE PAYMENTS: Program fees can be paid in regular payments from September through February. Payment of Teen Seekers of Faith fees can be made by our online system (credit cards or debit to checking/savings account) personal check, money order, or cash. If personal checks are returned NSF twice during any one school year, payment will be accepted only by cash or money order, thereafter. If we, the parish, are charged bank fees for the NSF check, reimbursement of these fees is required, also.

DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP: Most Teen Seekers of Faith sessions will be held in the Parish Education building. The Parish Education Building is located at 600 W. 55th Street in LaGrange.

TEEN BEHAVIOR/DISCIPLINE GUIDELINES: The same rules that govern our teen's academic behavior also govern their behavior at Teen Seekers of Faith sessions. It would be unfair and counterproductive to the group and the process if each teen does not adhere to these basic guidelines. We are confident that our teens can show courtesy, respect, and attention during Teen Seekers of Faith sessions.

If disruptive behavior occurs, the catechist will address it in a manner in which s/he feels appropriate. If disruptive behavior continues, the parent will be contacted and an appointment made to discuss said behavior with the CRE. If the disruptive behavior still continues it may become necessary for the CRE to remove your teen from the process. The CRE will attempt to provide alternative approaches to Teen Seekers of Faith to the parent.

Please note that destruction of any property is not tolerated and it is the parent's responsibility to make restitution.

Cell phones, iPods, MP3 Players, games, toys, radios, vaping or tobacco materials, gum, etc. are not acceptable in the academic setting, nor are they acceptable in a Teen Seekers of Faith setting. Said items will be confiscated and can be retrieved by the parent from the CRE. (The confiscated items will NOT be returned to your teen.) These items will be kept in the CRE's office.

ABSENTEE CODE: Please make sure that your teen completes all lessons listed in the syllabus, and attends each and every mandatory in-person session. Please ensure your teen arrives on time for our in-person activities and is ready to participate.

ONLINE LESSONS: Teen Seekers of Faith online curriculum is very important in their preparations for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Please see that your teen completes every online assignment each month, and that they complete the necessary work to show their completion of the lessons

LITURGICAL EXPERIENCES: It is our expectation that your teen enrolled in our Teen Seekers of Faith attends Mass on a regular basis. Regular Mass attendance is important, as being a part of the worshipping community helps your teen to see how religion and faith are part of daily life.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM POLICY: Regular completion of the online lessons and attendance at the in-person events is a must for the reception of the sacraments. Any student seeking full Initiation into Church (Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation) will be referred to our RCIA program. This program begins in September and concludes shortly after Easter. The Sacrament of Confirmation can be conferred here at St. Cletus or at the parish where the family is registered and/or worships regularly.

CALENDAR: A calendar is provided when you pick up your teen's book and is provided with this handbook.

Statements in this handbook are subject to amendment with or without notice. The Religious Education Program will attempt to keep you informed of all changes as soon as possible, however, some changes might be made immediately due to unforeseen circumstances.

St. Cletus Parish
Religious Education Program
Teen Seekers of Faith
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June, 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian and Teen,

This is your copy of the Policy Booklet for St. Cletus Parish Teen Seekers of Faith Process. Keep this book handy for phone numbers and references.

In order that you might better understand the philosophy and requirements of St. Cletus Parish Teen Seekers of Faith Process, it is important that you thoroughly read this booklet. Please sign along with your teen and return to the bottom of this page this indicates that you have read and accepted the policies.

Sincerely,

Norma Hernandez

Coordinator of Faith Formation

I have read and do accept the policies as printed in the booklet.

Mother/Guardian Signature: _____

Father/Guardian Signature: _____

Teen(s)'s Signature: _____

Date: _____