

Office of Evangelization & Catechesis (CCE)



2016/2017 Parent Handbook
St. Bartholomew the Apostle Catholic Church
5356 Eleventh Street, Katy, TX 77493
281-391-0839

Mission Statement of St. Bartholomew the Apostle Catholic Church

We are called to be a witness to the Gospel and to discern the goals and direction of religious education in our parish through shared wisdom.

We strive to be one heart and one mind in Christ to share His values through prayer and study, worship and sacrament.

CCE STAFF

Cindy Smolik	Religious Education Director
Nellie Aguilera	CCE Secretary
Barbara Wibberg	CCE Coordinator (volunteer)
CCE Phone Number	281-391-0839
CCE Office Hours	8:30 am – 4:00 pm (M-F)

CCE Schedule

Sunday.....	6:30 PM - 7:45 PM - Sixth thru Confirmation
Wednesday.....	6:30 PM – 7:45 PM - First thru Eight Grade
Thursday.....	6:30 PM – 7:45 PM - First thru Fifth Grade/OOS Sacramental classes

Registration for currently enrolled students takes place in March. Registration opens up to all registered parishioners in April until the end of August.

CCE begins after Labor Day and concludes the middle of April.

We follow the Katy ISD schedule for vacation days. A calendar will be posted on line.

CCE Program

Faith formation is an ongoing progressive journey from First Grade through (Confirmation).

Elementary Catechesis

Grades First thru sixth will use the “Alive in Christ” series. The content of this series is faithful to the teaching of the Catholic Church and holistically embraces the four pillars of the Catechism of the Catholic Church: Creed, Liturgy and Sacraments, Moral Life and Prayer.

High School Catechesis

Confirmation Prep 1

The grade theme: Strengthening the foundation of our faith.
Basic Catechism text used along with guest speakers.

Confirmation Prep 2

The grade theme: Teen Life along with The Catholic Faith Handbook.

Confirmation Year (usually in Nov. or Dec.)

Continue -The Catholic Faith Handbook

Sacraments



First Reconciliation (2nd grade)

In the sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation we receive and celebrate God’s forgiveness of our sins.

Children wishing to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation must be baptized and present a Baptismal Certificate (ONLY if baptized outside St. Bartholomew parish), must be registered parishioners, be enrolled in CCE classes and have successfully completed the prior year of CCE.

Sacramental preparation classes are during second grade CCE classes. The sacrament is usually celebrated during the late fall. A parent is REQUIRED to attend any MANDATORY MEETINGS.



First Holy Communion (2nd grade)

Jesus instituted the Eucharist within the Jewish Passover meal on the night before He died. In the Eucharist, we are united with Christ. Nourished by His Body and Blood and filled with His Holy Spirit, we become one Body, one Spirit in Christ.

Preparation for First Eucharist is during the second grade CCE classes. The child must be baptized and present a Baptismal Certificate (ONLY if baptized outside St. Bartholomew parish), must be a registered parishioner, be enrolled in CCE classes and have successfully completed the prior year of CCE classes. First Eucharist is usually celebrated as a group during Easter Season.

A parent is REQUIRED to attend ANY MANDATORY MEETINGS.



Confirmation (11th grade)

Those who have been baptized continue the path of Christian Initiation through the Sacrament of Confirmation.

The Sacrament of Confirmation seals us with the Gift of the Holy Spirit and strengthens us.

STUDENTS MUST HAVE RECEIVED the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation and Eucharist, attend Mass regularly, and have successfully attended CCE classes for two years prior to making Confirmation.

Candidates must complete a weekend retreat, 20 hours' community service hours, 4 Mass hours, and a one-family service in the community. Confirmation classes are offered to students in the eleventh grade during regular CCE classes and Confirmation is usually celebrated in November or December..

Parents are REQUIRED to attend any MANDATORY MEETINGS.

Sacrament for 3rd grade and older students-Out of Sequence (OOS)

Students in the third grade through high school who need to receive the Sacrament of Baptism or First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion will be prepared in a special CCE class. These students will be placed in our Out of Sequence (OOS) class. The family must be registered parishioners. Students must have successfully completed the prior year of CCE classes.

The child must be baptized and present a Baptismal Certificate (ONLY if baptized outside St. Bartholomew parish). If the child is receiving Baptism a copy of the birth certificate must be presented to the CCE office

A parent is REQUIRED to attend MANDATORY MEETINGS.

General Policies

***Drop off/Pickups** - Parents of elementary students, are required to walk their children to the classroom, and to sign them in and out each class period.

***Attendance** –When a student is absent for two consecutive class sessions, the parents will be contacted by the CCE office before the next session. After four unexcused absences, **the student's name will be dropped from the class roster to make room for other students**, unless maintaining enrollment is justified after a meeting with a parent. Please contact the CCE Office in advance to report if your child will be absent from class and the reason for the absence.

***Tardiness** – To avoid disrupting the class, it is important that the child arrive in class on time. A student is marked absent if more than 15 minutes late.

***General Conduct** – All students of our CCE program are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful manner.

***Dress Code** – Students will be expected to present themselves for class in “school dress”.

*** Illegal Drug/Alcohol Use** – Alcohol, drugs and smoking is prohibited at any time on church property.

Prescription medication may not be administered to students by catechists or any of the pastoral staff.

***Truancy** – When a student willful and intentionally leaves CCE without securing proper permission, he/she is considered to be truant. Parents will be contact immediately and consequences will be addressed.

***Parking Lot Safety** – All parents and students are advised to exercise safety and caution at drop off areas and in the parking lot.

*** Sunday Mass** - **Religious classes are not a substitute for the Sunday Liturgy** or Holy Days of Obligation.