



St. Anthony Church
26 Hammond St.
Mattapoisett, MA 02739

Rev. Paul Fedak
Pastor

Deacon Tyrone Gonsalves

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Mattapoisett, MA 02739

Mary Arikian Chaplain

Director of Faith Formation

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St. Rita of Cascia Church
121 Front St.
Marion, MA 02738

St. Anthony ~ St. Rita Faith Formation Office

September 21, 2026

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Catechetical Sunday, a national day to celebrate the ministry of passing on the faith, will be Sunday, September 20, 2026. The official theme is **“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me... to bring good news to the poor” (Luke 4:18)**. This annual event honors catechists and highlights the shared responsibility of all baptized persons to hand on the faith.

“Always be ready to give an explanation...for a reason for your hope” 1 Peter 3:15

. “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me... to bring good news to the poor” (Lk 4:18; cf. Is 61:1) reveals Jesus’ mission and identity. Anointed by the Holy Spirit, he is sent to bring hope, healing, and freedom—especially to the poor, the brokenhearted, and the forgotten.

This passage shows that the Messiah comes not with power or status, but with compassion, restoring dignity and proclaiming God’s mercy. It also becomes a model for the Church, us, which is called to continue Christ’s work by sharing the Good News and caring for those most in need.

We will continue to use **A Family of Faith** by Sophia Institute for grades 1 - 8. This year’s focus is **Christian Prayer**

For our new families, A Family of Faith is a family-based Catechism series that covers the entire Catechism of the Catholic Church in five years and assists parents in teaching the Faith to their children. One special advantage to teaching children catechism at home is that it is an opportunity to draw your family closer together. Each month parents and catechists discuss one or two chapters of the book and then the parents teach it to their children. There are activities in each chapter to help the children to learn the key points. We will also plan opportunities during the year for families to spend time with each other so that we can support one another in this holy endeavor.

Now to administrative details:

PARISH REGISTRATION: Our Faith Formation program is only open to members of our parish. If you have not registered with the parish, I have included the parish registration form here.

FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION:

BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATES: NEW Students in grades 1 – 10: A photocopy of each child’s baptismal certificate must accompany the registration form.

If your child was baptized at St. Anthony parish or St. Rita parish, check the appropriate box on the registration form.

ATTENDANCE: For First Communion and Confirmation: The Diocese of Fall River mandates that there be at least 24 hours of Faith Formation instruction in the parish.

St. Anthony Parish and St. Rita Parish are dedicated and committed to our catechetical ministry and we ask for your involvement by seeing that your child attends class each week. Each lesson taught builds upon the one before so that your children receive a more complete catechesis. **Those preparing for First Communion will be allowed 3 excused absences. Those in Grades 9 and 10 will be allowed 2 excused absences.** The only excused absences are illness or a death in the family. If your child will be absent from class on any given day, please call the Faith Formation Office at (508) 758-3735 to report the absence or if your child has missed only one session, you may send a note when your child returns to class.

CLASS SCHEDULE GRADES 1 THROUGH 6 ONLY: In 2019, we transitioned to a new model for Faith Formation. We are excited to implement "A Family of Faith." Parents attend meetings once a month. Then parents will instruct their children at home for the remainder of the lessons for that month.

FIRST COMMUNION: Students preparing to receive First Reconciliation and First Communion will attend classes conducted by the parish. **These classes are not a substitute for A Family of Faith, but in addition to.** Please indicate the preferred time you wish your child to attend.

JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL: We will have a few classes for Grades 7 & 8. The day and time of these classes is TBD.

HIGH SCHOOL: Our Confirmation preparation requires that students attend classes for two years: **Confirmation I (grade 9) and Confirmation II (Grade 10):** Both levels attend classes Sunday morning twice a month 8:00 – 10:30 am. This includes attendance at the 8:00 Mass.

INCLEMENT WEATHER: If the schools close for inclement weather at any time of the day we will not have classes. You will be notified of Sunday class cancellations by email or on your local news channel.

May God bless you and keep you in His loving care,

Mary Arikian Chaplain

Director of Faith Formation

St. Anthony - St. Rita Parish Faith Formation
Registration 2026 – 2027

FAMILY INFORMATION

FATHER/GUARDIAN NAME: First _____ Last _____

MOTHER/GUARDIAN NAME: First _____ Last _____ Maiden name _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____ Town _____

EMAIL ADDRESS (Our primary method for notices and information): _____

Contact Info:	Home Phone	Work Phone	Mobile Phone
Father/Guardian			
Mother/Guardian			

ALTERNATE EMERGENCY CONTACT NAME & PHONE: _____

STUDENT INFORMATION:

NOTE- NEW STUDENTS ONLY: A photocopy of your child's Baptismal Certificate **MUST** accompany the registration form if your son/daughter was not baptized at St. Anthony - St. Rita parish.

_____ Check here if your child(ren) were baptized at St. Anthony		_____ check here if your child(ren) were baptized at St. Rita	
<u>Child's Name</u>	<u>Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY)</u>	<u>Date of Baptism (MM/DD/YYYY)</u>	<u>FF Grade</u>

Medical information: please list any food allergies; bee stings; epilepsy, etc. _____

For Grade 2 only: As of right now there will be only one class. Nothing is definite yet. I would like to know what time you would prefer for classes. **List at least three choices.** The day and time with the most votes will be when we hold class.

xxxxxxx	<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>
10:30 am		xxxxxxx	xxxxxxx
4:30 pm	xxxxxxxxx		
5:00 pm	xxxxxxxxx		

FEES & PAYMENT METHOD:

Registration Fee:	One child:	\$50.00
	Two children:	\$75.00
	Three children:	\$95.00
	Four or more children:	\$105.00

Grades 2: SACRAMENTAL FEE: ADD \$25.00 per/child receiving First Communion this year

Grade 10: SACRAMENTAL FEE ADD \$30.00 for each child in Confirmation II this year

Late Fee: ADD \$10.00 if registration is not received by **October 1, 2026**

TOTAL DUE: \$ _____

METHODS OF PAYMENT:

1. **Pay by check or cash:** please print forms and return with cash or check payable to:
St. Anthony-St. Rita Faith Formation, P.O. Box 501, Mattapoisett, MA 02739

2. **Pay online at:** [Donate - St. Anthony - St. Rita Parish - Mattapoisett, MA \(ecatholic.com\)](https://www.ecatholic.com/donate-st-anthony-st-rita-parish-mattapoisett-ma) In the drop-down menu under **WAYS TO GIVE**, choose "Faith Formation Fees"