

# Sacraments

## FIRST RECONCILIATION & FIRST COMMUNION:

*Preparation for these Sacraments is a 2-year cycle, typically beginning in the 1<sup>st</sup> grade, with First Communion to be received at the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade year.* Preparation will be during the regular 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Religious Education Classes at St. Luke's. There is a 21 class MINIMUM attendance requirement for the required prior year (typically the 1<sup>st</sup> grade year). Also, Baptism is needed at least 3 months prior to the reception of First Penance. Parents will attend *four* special sessions for these Sacraments. Attendance at these Parents' Meetings is mandatory if your child will be receiving these sacraments during this school year.

**Meeting #1(Bilingual): Sunday, Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup> 9:15-10:15am**  
**Meeting #2 (English): Sunday, Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> 9:15-10:15am**  
**Meeting #2 (Spanish): Sunday, Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> 9:15-10:15am**  
**Meeting #3 (Bilingual): Sunday, Feb. 5<sup>th</sup> 9:15-10:15am**  
**Meeting #4 (English): Sunday, March 4<sup>th</sup> 9:15-10:15am**  
**Meeting #4 (Spanish): Sunday, March 11<sup>th</sup> 9:15-10:15am**

Reception of First Reconciliation will be at a Penance Service on Saturday, December 11, 2011, at 10 AM. The First Communion Mass will be held on Saturday, May 5, 2011 at 10 a.m. Rehearsal for the First Communion Mass will be Friday, May 4, 2011, at 6 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Please direct any inquiries or concerns to Kelley Peffer at [dre@stlukercc.org](mailto:dre@stlukercc.org) or (706) 864-4779.

## CONFIRMATION:

*Reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation requires attendance in a Catholic school, a parish religious education program, or a home school religious education program for at least 2 YEARS prior to reception of the sacrament.* In the Archdiocese of Atlanta, students are to be confirmed in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade. To download our Confirmation Preparation Packet, please visit the Youth Ministry page on our website. Please contact Isaac Hathaway, our Youth Minister, at [ym@stlukercc.org](mailto:ym@stlukercc.org) or (706) 864-4779 for any other questions.

## ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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## PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION

—for—

**Grades Kindergarten to 12**  
**First Reconciliation/  
First Communion /  
Confirmation**  
**Sundays, 9:15 – 10:30 AM**

**2011-2012**  
**POLICIES**  
**&**  
**INFORMATION**

# Policies

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## MISSION STATEMENT

The Catechism of the Catholic Church states, “Through the grace of the sacrament of marriage, parents receive the responsibility and privilege of *evangelizing their children* (2225).” It is the mission and purpose of the PSR program to serve the parishioners of St. Luke by assisting and empowering parents in carrying out this awesome responsibility. **The work of the staff and volunteers of St. Luke’s PSR is to assist you, not replace you.**

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## MASS ATTENDANCE

Mass attendance is the essential and central part of passing on the faith. St. Luke’s Religious Education program complements, but does not replace, your children’s participation at the Sunday liturgy with their family. We encourage and support your commitment to make sure your children attend Mass as well as classes and Wednesday night programs. Doing this will nourish and strengthen your family’s faith and understanding. Discuss with your family how you will schedule attending Sunday Mass as a family and also faithfully attend Religious Education classes and Wednesday night programs.

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## INVESTMENT IN OUR PROGRAM

Here at St. Luke’s we recognize that our program can only be successful in reaching all with the love of Christ with the help and support of our parents. **It is expected that, for every family whose children are enrolled in our Sunday morning classes, at least one adult is to serve in some capacity.**

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## FEES

Fees collected for PSR classes are for materials and supplies and are a one-time only fee (no other money is collected throughout the school year.) Scholarships and payment plans are available. Please contact Kelley or Isaac to confidentially discuss these options.

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## SPECIAL NEEDS & HOME STUDY

We will do our best to accommodate **children with special needs**, within the limited resources we have available. A **home study program is available** to families whose circumstances and needs cannot be met by the regular Religious Education program. Just ask for more information.

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## STUDENT ARRIVAL

**Children Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade must be escorted to their classrooms by a parent or guardian.** Parents are encouraged to escort their children from 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup>, but it is not required. **Students MUST be in class and seated by 9:15 AM each Sunday.** It is disruptive to the entire class when children arrive late.

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## STUDENT DISMISSAL

**To ensure the safety of our children, we must require that a parent/guardian of children Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grades park their cars and come into the building to pick up their children. No Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade child will be permitted to leave the building without an adult.** Classes end at 10:30 AM. Please be here on time to pick up your child so the catechists can attend Mass.

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## STUDENT CONDUCT

Life as a Christian is a commitment to live by the example of Jesus Christ. This commitment includes each student’s acceptance of responsibility for his or her conduct and actions, and each student’s commitment to respect the rights of others. Students are expected to: (1) attend class regularly; (2) participate in activities and discussion; (3) respect their teachers; and (4) respect each other.

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## DISCIPLINE

Normal discipline problems will be handled by the Catechist. If a problem becomes persistent, the student will be sent to the Director. A continuing problem may necessitate a call to parents, or a request that a parent attend class with the child or face removal from the program. Disciplinary infractions include, but are not limited to: abusive language, fighting, vandalism, disrespect to the teacher or other students, stealing, or leaving the building.

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## DRESS

Sunday dress is to be expected. Males or females dressed immodestly will not be tolerated. Violation or infraction may result in your child being pulled from the class or from the sacramental occasion.

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## WEATHER

In the event of inclement weather, classes may be cancelled. If in doubt, check the parish website at [www.stlukercc.org](http://www.stlukercc.org).

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## ATTENDANCE

Please make every effort to have your child attend class unless there are exceptional circumstances. In order to maintain enrollment for your child, the following attendance requirements must be met:

- 1. Your child may not have more than 5 unexcused absences or he/she will be considered withdrawn from the program***
  - 2. Your child must attend a minimum of 75% of scheduled classes to receive credit for the year.***
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## PRAYER

It is in the family is where our children are first introduced to the love and mercy of God. Praying and worshipping together as a family will serve well to solidify what is taught in our PSR classes. But even more effective is your prayerful example. Children who see their parents frequenting the sacraments and being active parish members will learn how to put their faith into action, which is the whole goal of St. Luke’s PSR.