



DEAR PARISH FAMILIES

We at San Francisco have confidence that you as parents or guardians want the best for your children. Your decision to encourage your child to participate in catechesis is an expression of your desire to help them in their faith formation. You are the primary religious educators of your children. And as such are the most important models of Christian values for them. We, the San Francisco Catechetical Department, will make every effort to assist you in this important responsibility.

WHAT IS CATECHESIS

According to the Diocesan Catechetical Policy, the church is calling us today to move away from a “School Model” of catechesis to an “Initiation into the Faith” model where the emphasis is on the growth in loving relationships, particularly making alive the very aim of all catechesis which is: “to put people not only in touch, but also in communion and intimacy with Jesus Christ” according to *General Directory of Catechism #80 (GDC #80)*. This must be the heart of Catechesis. It is an introduction to a relationship with God and a way of life in faith.

Catechesis is therefore a unique ministry in the diocese, performed jointly by priests, deacons, religious and laity, all in communion with the local Bishop (GDC #80). The task of catechesis includes, besides knowledge and understanding of the faith, the formation for liturgy and prayer, moral responsibility, participation in the community, to live and to serve others (GDC #85-86).

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Children start Catechism classes from Gr 3 / 4 (9 years of age) *
- **Before parents can register their children for any catechetical program, the catholic members of the family must register as members of the parish.**
- Should the children be from another parish they must provide the Parish Priest with a letter from their current or previous parish confirming attendance of classes.
- All children attending catechetical programs are to register annually at the beginning of the calendar year.

MASS ATTENDANCE

- Parents are the primary religious educators of their children. With this in mind it is expected that families commit themselves to weekly participation in the Eucharist.

REGISTRATION FEES

- R30 per child
- Fees are to be paid annually to the Parish bank account on registration for catechesis

WEEKLY SESSION TIMES

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• First Reconciliation & First Communion: Monday 18h00 – 19h00• EDGE: Monday 18h00 - 19h00• LIFETEEN: Monday 18h00 – 19h00 |
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- Parents must please fetch the children promptly at 19h00

Date of Registration to be advised via our Parish newsletter and Catechism WhatsApp Groups.

PROGRAM POLICIES

CANCELLATION OF SESSIONS

- Cancellation of classes will be announced in the following ways:
 - Via class WhatsApp group3*

ABSENTEEISM

- The parish priest or catechetical coordinator will contact parents when a child misses 3 consecutive classes or is absent on a regular basis.
- Parents are requested to contact the child's catechist timeously if the child cannot attend a session.

STATIONERY

- The Catechist will guide your child but generally Children are expected to bring the following items: A Flip File or A4 book to paste information in, pencils / pens etc to each class.
- The Parish will provide any literature / workbooks for the year

PARENTS INVOLVEMENT

- Parents are encouraged to revise & discuss with their child the work done during the session.
- Parents are to please assist in the learning of the memory verses and prayers as required.
- It is the responsibility of the parents to attend parent meetings during the year.

COMMUNICATION

- Parents may contact their child's catechist for their child's faith level if they have any questions or concerns during the year course of the year.

PRAYER CORNER

- Families are encouraged to consider setting aside a prayer space in their home or in the child's bedroom.

CATECHISTS

Catechist	Class	Contact number
Shareena Govender Co-ordinator	Lifeteen/Confirmation	081 858 0693 Email: mdcshana@gmail.com
Lindy Lawlor	Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist	061 561 0173
Charnor Puttergill	Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist	082 454 8643
Jill Johannes	First Holy Communion	064 507 3087
Rochelle Human	Tba	074 053 3292
Sr Columbia Jada-Faye Assam TT Masisi Kailah Emmanuel	EDGE	076 335 1340
Nicole Howard Shareena Govender Stacey Klate	LIFETEEN	079 865 3403 081 858 0693 063 751 1185

Note faith formation does not end after first communion the Edge and Life Teen programmes continue to Confirmation. We look forward to assisting you in your child's Faith Formation.