

Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena and St. Francis of Assisi Parish
Religious Education Program (PREP)
Order of Christian Initiation for Young People (OCI-Teen)

Canon Law, the law of the Church, states that “parents above others are obliged to form their children in the faith and practice of Christian life by word and example; godparents and those who take the place of parents are bound by an equivalent obligation” (Can. 774 §2).

The General Directory for Catechesis and the National Directory for Catechesis resound the same sentiment.

The Cathedral Church of St. Catharine of Siena’s Parish Religious Education Program recognizes and embraces parents in their role as the primary catechists of their children.

The mission of our program is designed to catechize your child on the Catechism and teachings of the Catholic Church, Scripture, and Church Doctrine, to fully form them in the Roman Catholic faith.

Our program is for the children of our registered parish families who are not enrolled in a Catholic school and are not homeschooled in all topics.

PREP classes are held weekly on Sundays, September through May, 9:45 AM -11:15 AM

in the St. John Vianney Regional Middle School building, located next to the parking lot across the street from the Walson Center on North 18th St. between W. Turner & Chew St.

Our program utilizes a variety of resources that will enable the children to cultivate a deep appreciation for, and an understanding of what it means to be a Catholic Christian in today’s ever-changing world.

Our program provides your child with ample opportunities to live and experience their faith through catechesis, service, worship, and fellowship. All PREP students are expected to attend Mass weekly with their family, and if of age, receive the Eucharist and attend Confession regularly.

PREP is committed to providing all our children with the fullest experience of living their Catholic heritage as they travel on their journey of faith and deepening their relationship with God the Father, Jesus - God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION (OCI) for Youth

Our OCI classes are for young people, who are 12-17 years old, and whose present circumstances are described in one of the following categories:

- 1. Catechumens:** *Never been baptized.*
- 2. Candidates:** *Have been baptized in another Christian denomination recognized by the Catholic Church and wish to convert to Catholicism.*
- 3. Fallen away Catholics:** *Baptized Catholic but have not been catechized, nor received their Sacraments of First Holy Communion and/or Confirmation.*

For # 2 & 3: A copy of your Baptismal Certificate must be provided when registering.

Our classes are held weekly, on Sundays, 11:30 AM – 12:45 PM in the Parish Religious Education Office, classroom #1 in the SJV Middle School building. Our curriculum materials: Each student will receive a Teen Bible, St. Joseph’s Catechism of the Catholic Church, and a special printed folder that includes prayers, the Ten Commandments, the Beatitudes, Precepts of the Catholic Church and other Catholic formational information to store the weekly lesson handouts. In addition to the provided materials, students need a notebook and pen.

If you are interested in learning more about this program, or registering, please contact our Director of Religious Education, Donna Sciacca, to schedule an appointment. Please call 610-432-7655 or send an email to:

prep@cathedral-church.org