INSTRUCTIONS FOR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

CATECHETICAL YEAR 2023-2024

**1. Child Catechism Programme.**

* **Dates.** The parish’s Child Catechesis Programme will start on Monday 2 October 2023. During the year we follow the Calendar of State schools in Malta. (see 'Special Dates' below).
* **Year Groups**. The names of the year groups are the same as for schools, from Year 1 (Year 1) to Year 7 (which was Form1)). Year 2 is the First Communion class, Year 7 is the Confirmation class.
* **The Days and Times of the catechism**. Year 1 class meet only on Mondays. Year 2 to Year 7 meet on Mondays and Thursdays. Times are always from 4:30pm to 5:15pm. The centre opens at 4.15pm so that the children can play a little together before we start.
* **Special Dates.** There are no catechism sessions when State Schools are on holiday. Special events, times and activities are available in the Catechetical Year Calendar.
* **Children Only policy.** Only children can enter the Centre from the black gate inwards while the Child Catechesis Programme is in session. People who bring children are kindly asked to stop and wait outside. During catechism time (4.30pm to 5.15pm) the gate is closed. Punctuality is therefore also important.

**2. Regular Attendence**

* **Attendance and Punctuality.** We emphasize the need for regular attendance, punctuality and correct behaviour.
* **Attendance Card.** A digital attendance card is issued to every child. Every child brings it with them whenever they come and scan it to register their attendance. We are giving this card for free to new children. If it is lost or damaged, a fee of €5 will be charged for fresh issues.
* **Absenteeism.** If your child is unable to come to a session of the child catechesis programme, you are kindly requested to notify us by filling in this Google Form: [Notification of Absence Child Catechesis Programme 2023 - 2024 - Google Forms](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1WFUOjRfAKaxQJn2hHzj0VKbGApdTcXx8utYrSOZLrDM/edit). In case of illness which involves absence of two consecutive sessions we would need a copy of the medical certificate you sent to school. This could be done via email [katekezi.iklin@maltadiocese.org](mailto:katekezi.iklin@maltadiocese.org) or by giving it to your child’s catechist.
* **Problems.** In case of any issues that need to be solved, you are asked to contact the co-ordinator on 99320194. On the other hand the catechists are duty bound to inform the co-ordinator of irregularities in attendance, misconduct or other difficulties arising.
* **Meetings for Parents and Guardians.** Attending these meetings (seminars) held throughout the year is just as important as your children's attendance for catechism. We will inform you nearer the time by email and expect you to always attend.

**3. Other items to note**

* **Donations.** We warmly thank those who have already sent their annual donation. The parish’s income consists solely of what people donate. We will later issue receipts for all donations.
* **Stationery etc**. Some catechists may ask children to bring stationery with them for exercises and activities organised during sessions.

**4. A positive attitude**

* **The Centre and meeting rooms** are equipped with audiovisual equipment, suitable furniture, learning resources, air conditioners and more. It is important that while your children use and enjoy all this, they look after it with care.
* **Gadgets and Personal Objects**  Children are not allowed to bring with them and carry items irrelevant to the lesson of the catechism or the activity organized for them. The Centre is not responsible for the damage or loss of any stuff that your children bring with them.
* **Responsibility for cleanliness**. We stress to the children that they are responsible for the cleanliness of the whole Centre. Cleanliness and environmental responsibility are signs of maturity and in the person.

**5. A few practical points**

* Daily Mass. Mass is celebrated from Monday to Friday at 6.15 pm and 6.45 am. There is Mass on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 8.30 am. We invite you to come to any of these Masses.
* Sunday Mass. Every Sunday at 11:15am Mass a Liturgy of the Word for Children is celebrated. This mass helps children become more part of the community and the Christian life of the parish.
* Every second Sunday of the month The Children's Commission of the parish looks after the animation at 11.15 Mass, starting in November.

Many thanks

*Email:* [*katekezi.iklin@maltadiocese.org*](mailto:katekezi.iklin@maltadiocese.org)

***Mobile / Whatsapp: 99320194***