



St. Gerard Majella Roman Catholic Church

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April 7, 2026

To the faithful families of our Religious Education Program:

Thank you for enrolling your children in the St. Gerard’s Religious Education Program. We look forward to partnering with you for the important mission of providing your children a clear and true presentation of the teachings of our Catholic faith while fostering a deep relationship with Jesus.

We have successfully completed several years of our on-site program. Our long-term goal is for every grade level to gather at the parish every week. This will require significant renovation of our campus to create more classroom space. Until that happens, we will maintain the same schedule for 2026-2027. Levels 1-6 will continue to meet on campus **every other week** with an at-home assignment on the “off” weeks. The Confirmation Preparation Program (Levels 7 & 8) will continue to meet on campus **every week**. Tuition is \$175 for one student, \$300 for two and \$375 for three or more from the same family.

- Classes for Levels 1-6 will meet on site **every other week** for 75 minutes.
Children are to be signed in and will begin their session in the parish hall.
They will be seated as a class with their catechist.
After opening prayer, individual classes will meet in a dedicated space.
The session will end back in the parish hall for prayer, sign out and dismissal.
- There is a required **“at home”** assignment for weeks when not on campus.
- Loyola’s on-line “Interactive Session Reviews” are required to be done every week for **at home and on-site completed sessions/chapters (25 in total)**.
- A detailed syllabus will be provided.

CLASS SCHEDULE 2026-2027

<u>Week</u>	<u>Class Time</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>
“Mary”	4:00-5:15	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
	5:30-6:45	Level 2	Level 3	Level 1
“Joseph”	4:00-5:15	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6
	5:30-6:45	Level 5	Level 6	Level 4

Levels 1-3 – Choose **one** grade-level class during the “Mary” week.

- Level 1 meets every other Monday at 4:00 **or** Wednesday at 5:30
- Level 2 meets every other Monday at 5:30 **or** Tuesday at 4:00
- Level 3 meets every other Tuesday at 5:30 **or** Wednesday at 4:00

Levels 4-6 – Choose **one** grade-level class during the “Joseph” week.

- Level 4 meets every other Monday at 4:00 **or** Wednesday at 5:30
- Level 5 meets every other Monday at 5:30 **or** Tuesday at 4:00
- Level 6 meets every other Tuesday at 5:30 **or** Wednesday at 4:00

Confirmation Preparation Program (Levels 7 & 8)

- Confirmation classes meet *every week*.
- Class begins and ends in the parish hall.
- Classes will be seated with their catechist.
- After opening prayer, classes will meet in a dedicated space.
- Level 7 & 8 students must be signed out by an adult.

Level 7 meets EVERY TUESDAY from 7:00-8:15.

Level 8 meets EVERY WEDNESDAY from 7:00-8:15.

Sacrament Preparation Program – For children in grades three and up who are just beginning their faith formation process. Please call our office for detailed information.

Attached you will find the 2026-2027 Registration Form and Health History Form. ***Both need to be completed every year.*** Class choice is first come-first served. However, this format offers us tremendous flexibility. We hope to accommodate you to the absolute best of our ability!

You will note that “Home Study” is not on the registration form. In following the guidelines of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, in-person faith formation classes are always the preferred method for catechesis. Due to "extraordinary circumstances", some families may need to home school their child. Here is the link containing the diocesan requirements for home schooling as created with the guidance of the United States bishops in the National Directory for Catechesis:

<https://www.drvc-faith.org/wp-content/uploads/HomeSchooling-Nov2009.pdf>

If home study is absolutely necessary, your first steps come from the linked document:

1. The parent must formally register their child in the Religious Education Program.
2. The parent must notify the Pastor and the Catechetical Leader by writing a letter stating the reason why they need to catechize their child in their home. The Pastor will make the final decision whether catechesis in the home is allowed."

We are always looking for catechists (religion teachers) to join us in this incredibly important ministry. If you would like more information, please let me know!

Wishing you all a happy, healthy and holy Summer!

God bless,

Patty Longo

Director of Religious Education