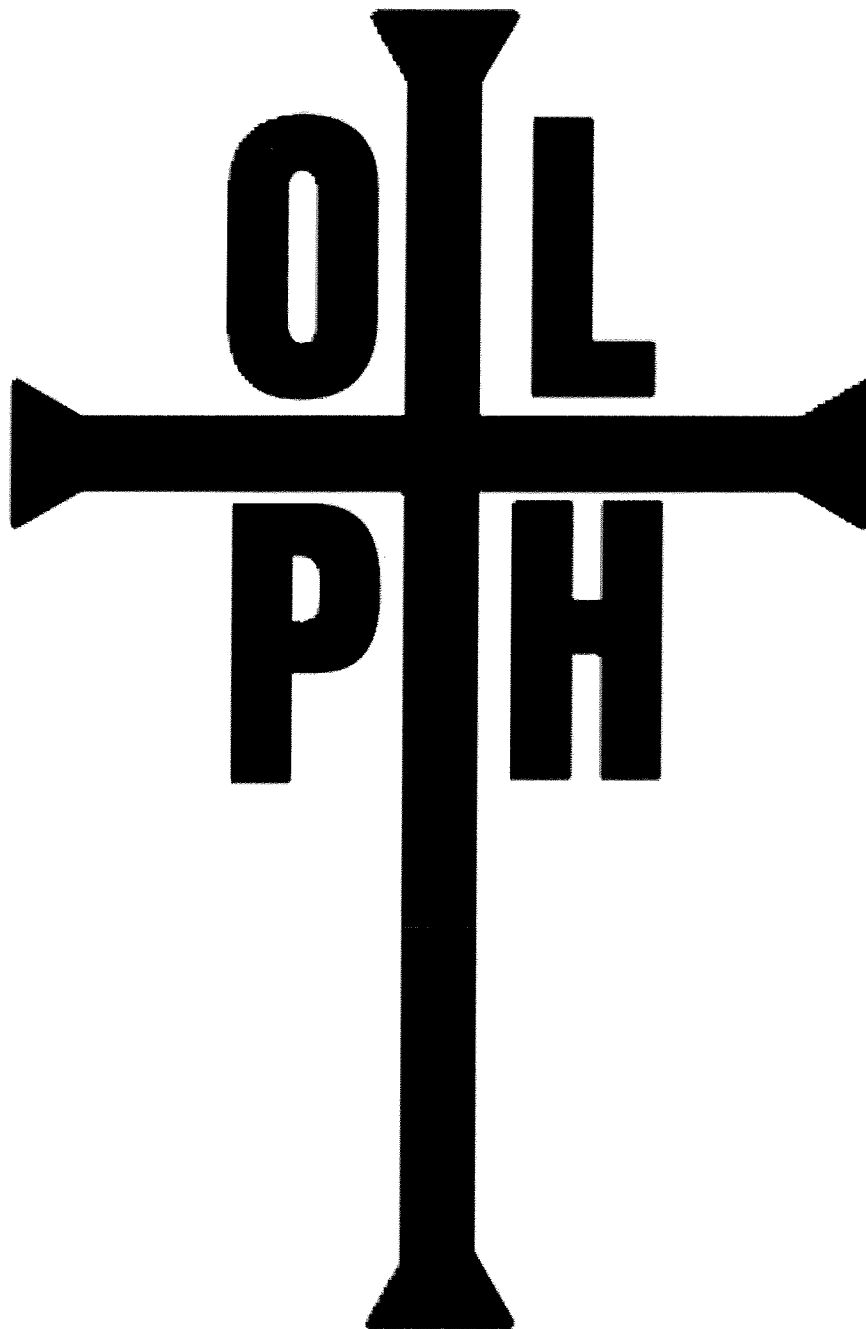


*Our Lady of Perpetual Help  
Parish School of Religion*



*Parent Handbook*

2018-2019



# OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP CATHOLIC CHURCH

8968 Highway 23  
Belle Chasse, LA 70037-2237

*Dear Parents,*

*Welcome to the 2018-2019 Parish School of Religion at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church. I look forward to working with you and your children to grow closer to God.*

*Our mission is to bring the Good News of God's love to all children and their families and to call them to commit their lives to Christ. In order to do this, it will take the commitment of all parents, catechists, students, and the parish of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. The Catechism of the Catholic Church states: "Parents have the first responsibility for the education of their children." (CCC 2223) We are here to help you with that responsibility. We offer the Religious Education, Community, and Love necessary to accomplish this goal.*

*We will do our best to work together with Our Lady of Perpetual Help School in order to bring about a sense of parish community. We will have the same theme for the year as the school and our classes will be using the same text books. Whenever possible we will use similar themes for the month, use the same assembly prayers, and learn some of the same songs. I hope that you will feel more of a sense of unity through our efforts.*

*I pray that everyone involved will have the chance to encounter Christ and experience His love and mercy.*

*God Bless,*

*C.C. Merritt*

*CRE/PCL Our Lady of Perpetual Help*

Phone: 504-394-0314  
Fax: 504-394-0376  
churchoffice@olphbc.org  
www.olphbc.org

# *Our Lady of Perpetual Help*

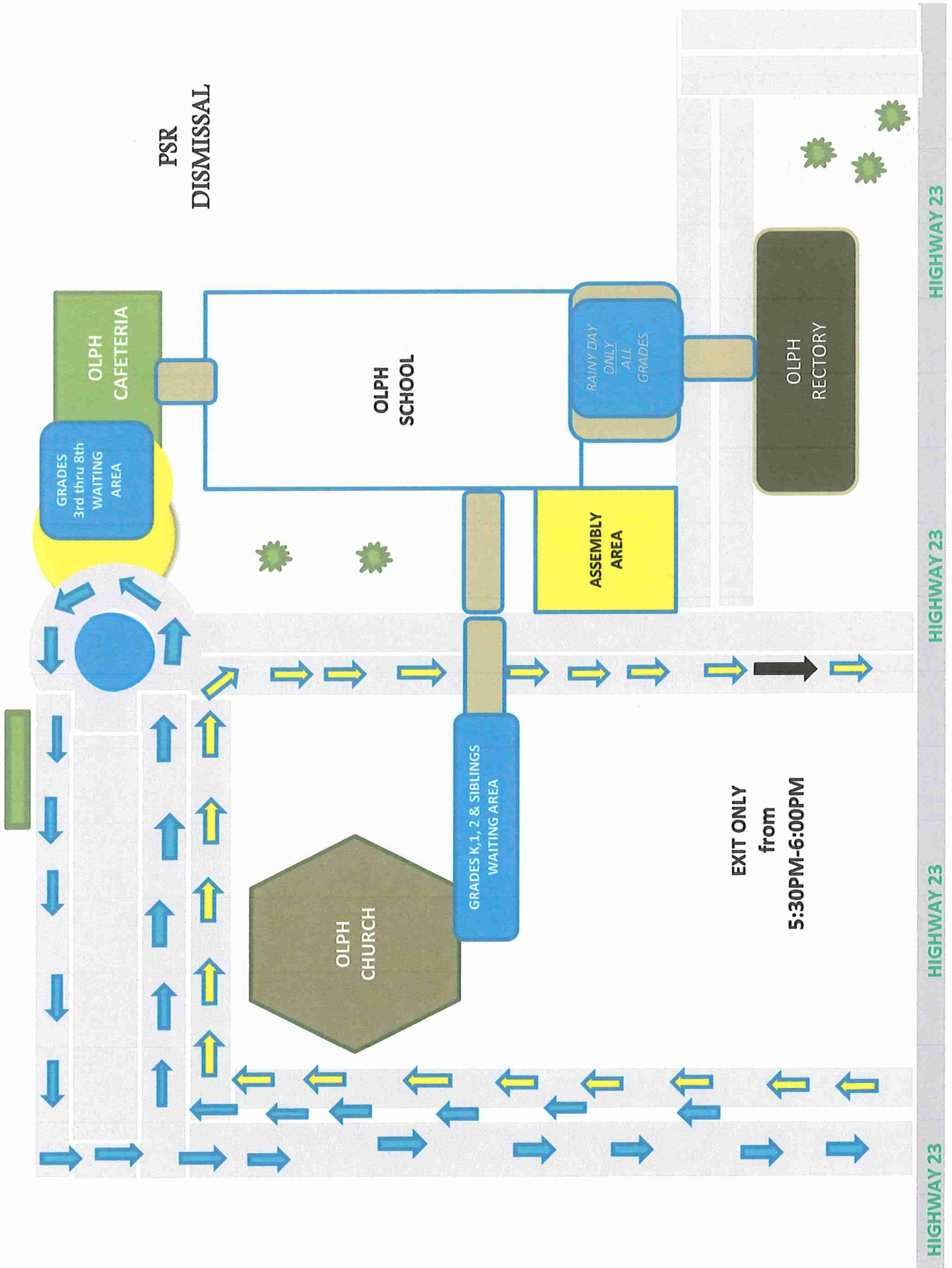
## *Parish School of Religion—2018-2019*

### Policies and Procedures

Welcome to our PSR program. The program is designed to promote full and active participation in the life and mission of the Roman Catholic Church through experiences in prayer, scripture, religious study, and participation in the sacramental life of the parish.

1. This year we will use the publication *Christ Our Life—New Evangelization Edition* (Loyola Press). Only weekly pages will be sent home with the students, not the textbooks. Review the pages with your children and complete the Building Family Faith section together. If you would like your child to bring home the textbook at any point please send a note to the teacher or the office.
2. We are blessed to have volunteer catechists to teach PSR. Please communicate with your child's catechist regarding absences, progress and other concerns.
3. **You and your family are expected to attend Mass regularly.** Mass attendance as a family has a profound effect on religious education classes. The Eucharist is the Source and Summit of our faith. Most of what is taught in PSR stems from the Mass.
4. **COMMUNICATION:** In addition to the emails, flyers and notes that we have traditionally used for communication, we will also use the REMIND notification. This will go to the cell phone numbers that were listed on the registration form that was handed in for the 2018-19 year. You will have to "accept" the notification for you to receive the information. This will be used to remind families about special events, changes in regular PSR times or dates, and if it is necessary to cancel PSR due to weather or other emergency situations.
5. **ATTENDANCE:** If you know your child will be absent ahead of time, please contact the Church Office before 4:00 PM at 394-0314 or after 4:00 PM please call 394-0757. Lesson pages for missed day(s) are available. If a student misses more than two consecutive classes the Coordinator of Religious Education or an assistant will contact the parent or guardian. Excessive absences may require make-up work before advancing PSR the following year. *This may also affect sacramental preparation.*
6. **ARRIVAL:** All students must be dropped off under the overhang between the Church and the School. Students must exit on passenger side ONLY. Students should not arrive before 4:30 PM and should not be left without knowing an adult responsible for PSR activities is on the premises. Students must line up in their designated grade area by 4:40 PM. *Students are not allowed in the playground area.* Students arriving late after assembly is over must check in at the office before going to the classroom. Once assembly is over the school doors will be locked. Anyone wishing to enter must be buzzed in.

7. **DISMISSAL:** The parking lot area between Church and School is **EXIT ONLY** from 5:30 PM to the end of dismissal. Enter the parking lot between the KC Hall and the Church forming two lanes. Please pull up as close as possible to the car in front of you. **Do not block** or stop on Belle Chasse highway.
8. **BEHAVIOR:** Students must conduct themselves in a respectful manner at all times—at assembly, in the classroom, and in church. Students who show disrespect to a PSR teacher, staff member, or any other adult on the premises will be sent to the office. A parent may be called to pick up the student if necessary. If behavior is repeated, the student may be asked to leave the program. Food, drinks, and snacks are not allowed unless a catechist provides these items. Due to so many food allergies in the community, the teachers have been instructed to only give certain types of food and to hand it out as they exit the school building. **Gum chewing is not allowed.** Be mindful that we are sharing space with school children. Any papers, pens, pencils, books, or other items in the classrooms should not be handled by PSR students. **Damage to any property belonging to OLPH or another individual may result in a fine for repair or replacement of the property.** Toys, sports balls, iPods, iPads, and cell phones are not allowed at any time while attending PSR. Any electronic device brought to class must be turned off when arriving on the property. When entering the classroom the device will be placed in a designated place determined by the teacher and will be returned when class is dismissed. We have a **NO-TOLERANCE POLICY** regarding cell phones, ipods and ipads. If the student is caught using any of these devices while attending PSR the following penalties will occur:
- 1<sup>st</sup> time: The student will bring the device to the office. A warning will be given and the device will be picked up at carpool time.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> time: The student will bring the device to the office. A notice of a \$10 Fine will be given and must be paid before the device is returned.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> time: The student will not be allowed back to OLPH PSR.
9. School uniforms are recommended. Any OLPH T-shirt may also be worn. Official sports uniforms may be worn when going directly to a game. Cleats are never to be worn in the school building. If dressed for dance class, please make sure to be covered appropriately.
10. Only students who are registered PSR students can be in the school building during PSR hours. (OLPH school students who attend afterschool care use separate buildings and spaces.)
11. Parents are expected to volunteer in some capacity at least 3 times during the year. Safe Environment Training is required by all parents. Exceptions to this would be considered if younger children are at home, or if job situations prevent parents from attending. Exceptions should be discussed between parents and either the CRE or the Pastor before the first PSR class.
12. Parents are invited to attend different events such as Masses, special blessings, and plays. Please make every effort to attend.



**PSR DISMISSAL**

**OLPH CAFETERIA**

**GRADES 3rd thru 8th WAITING AREA**

**OLPH SCHOOL**

**RAINNY DAY ONLY ALL GRADES**

**OLPH RECTORY**

**ASSEMBLY AREA**

**OLPH CHURCH**

**GRADES K, 1, 2 & SIBLINGS WAITING AREA**

**EXIT ONLY from 5:30PM-6:00PM**

**HIGHWAY 23**

**HIGHWAY 23**

**HIGHWAY 23**

**HIGHWAY 23**

# A Prayer for Parents

Father God, we thank you  
For the gift of our children.  
Bless our family  
That we may grow to love each other as you love us.

Jesus Christ, Son of the living God,  
You gave us the example to love our children  
when you said: "Let the little ones come to me."  
Help us bring them to You.

Holy Spirit, come into our hearts.  
Fill us with Your holy gifts.  
Penetrate our weakness with your strength  
That we may fulfill our duties as parents.

Praise, honor and glory to you, God of all,  
We ask this through the name of Jesus our Lord and Savior.  
Amen.



*"To maintain a joyful family requires much from both the parents and the children.  
Each member of the family has to become, in a special way, the servant of the  
others."*

**Pope John Paul II**